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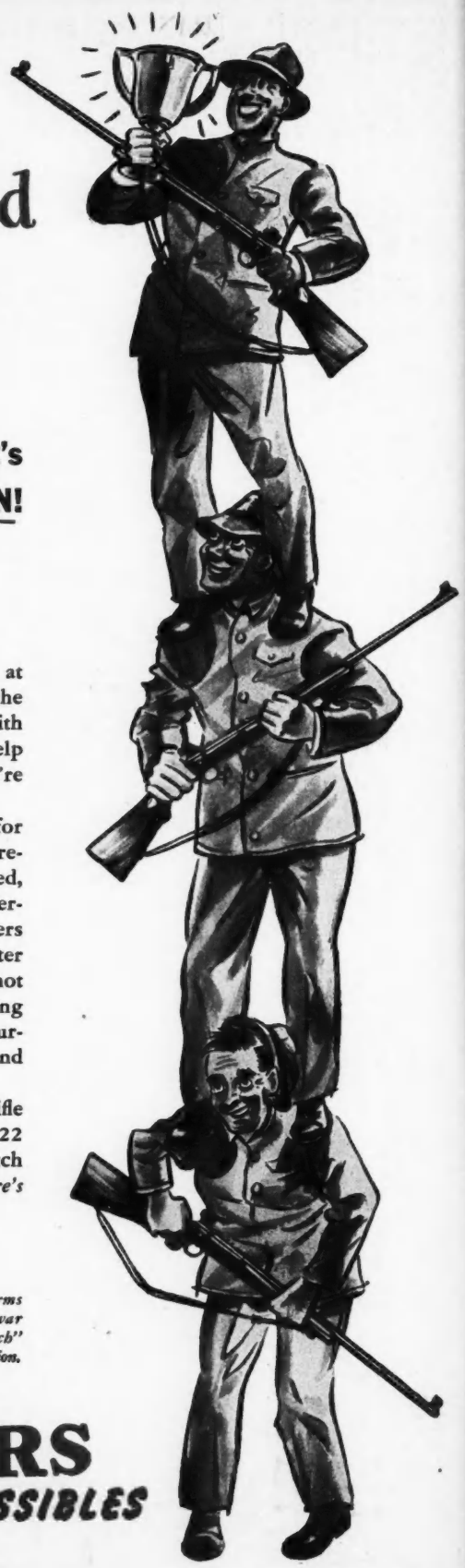

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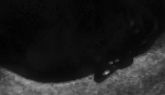

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RIFLEMAN WORDS . . . .

Each month this "lexicon for shooters" is devoted to a few words peculiar to the shooting game which may be puzzling to the newcomer. All words defined here are used in a current article.

ABERRATIONS—Imperfections in the image of an object as seen through a lens or system of lenses. They are the result of light rays failing to pass through a single point after refraction. There are six aberrations in general: spherical, chromatic, astigmatic, coma, curvature of field, and distortion.

ALLEN SCREW—A screw with a hexagonal (six-sided) socket in the head instead of a slot. The screw is turned by a hexagonal wrench which fits into the socket. Some screws of similar design have a fluted socket.

ARBOR PRESS—A machine for applying straight line force to an arbor (mandrel or spindle). The force is usually applied by hand with a mechanical advantage gained through a rack and pinion. An arbor press is often used in die-forming of jacketed bullets.

BULLET SWAGE—A tool for forming metal to a designed bullet shape. The bullet is formed in a die with pressure applied by a punch which enters the die and forms the bullet base or, in some designs, the nose.

CALIPER—An instrument for measuring diameters. It is made in the form of a scaled rule with sliding jaws, or in the form of a compass.

DOVETAIL BLOCKS—Among riflemen this usually refers to a block having a wedge-shaped cross-section for mounting sights on a rifle. The back is secured to the barrel or action by screws or the base of the block is dovetailed into the metal. The standard dovetail is ⅜ inch at its widest point.

EYE RELIEF—The optimum distance from the eye lens of an optical instrument, such as a telescope, to the eye of the user.

FIRE FORMING—The firing of a cartridge case in a chamber designed for another cartridge having a slightly larger body diameter forward of the base. Firing expands the undersize case body to the larger chamber.

GILDING METAL—A high copper alloy used for bullet jackets. The alloy usually incorporates from 90 to 95 per cent copper and from 5 to 10 per cent zinc. Small amounts of other metals may be present, depending on manufacturers.

OPTICAL CENTER—Optical axis or line joining the centers of curvature of the two lens surfaces. The optical axis does not always coincide with the mechanical axis. When a system of lenses is used it is important that the optical axis of the individual components be aligned.

RESOLVING POWER—The ability of a lens or system of lenses to show two closely spaced objects as distinct, one from the other. The measure of resolving power is customarily taken as the angle subtended by two point—objects which are just far enough apart to make it possible to see them as two distinct points.

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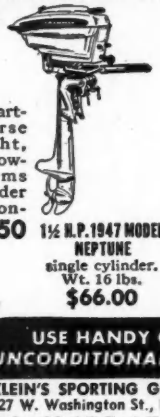

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Incidentally . . .

Those questionnaires we've talked about in this column for the past few months continue to intrigue us. Aside from telling us what subjects RIFLEMAN readers are most interested in, the questionnaires give us some insight into the reasons behind that loyalty to a magazine which prints nothing but articles on firearms.

For instance, in thumbing through a stack of questionnaire sheets the other day, we were struck by the preponderance of mechanically minded people among our readers . . . machinists, mechanics, engineers, repairmen, carpenters. Almost 50 percent of our membership, it seems, are people held together by that common bond . . . an ability to work with tools. Sometimes the job is unusual,

like that of the member who signed himself "barrelmaker . . .whiskey barrels, that is." More often it is toolmaker, carpenter, machinist, technician, mechanic, or engineer of some sort . . . all men who are accustomed to think in terms of work with tools, and who have a hand in turning out some exacting product, whether it happens to be steam turbines or precision instrument parts, tools or telephones, back porches or whiskey barrels. What is more natural than that these people should turn to an interest as close to home as this gun hobby for their spare-time relaxation?

☆ ☆ ☆

That other half of our membership represents, as you might expect, a vocational cross section of this country of ours. Twenty percent are white collar workers of some kind . . . varied from gas station owners to file clerks, real estate salesmen to advertising copy writers . . . from executives to dentists and surgeons. Then there's the to-be-expected group representing our "outdoor" industries . . . farmers, dairymen, ranchers, miners . . . men who work hard for a living, and to whom hunting and the ownership of firearms comes as naturally as breathing. What farmer or ranchman would be without a gun . . . and what cowhand without at least a rifle to pot marauding coyotes?

Professional outdoor occupations . . . rangers, wardens, conservationists and game protection men . . . account for roughly 7 percent of our quarter million, and a final 16 percent can be lumped together in a "miscellaneous" column. These are the occupations that defy classification under any system as simple as ours . . . retired businessmen, bakers, bee farmers, interior decorators . . . men whose businesses may be a far cry from an interest in firearms, but who have fallen victim to the lure of guns and gunning anyway. Among that 16 percent, incidentally, are some groupings that are worth mentioning separately . . . soldiers, students, and police . . . fellows you'd expect to be interested in shooting in view of the programs carried on in schools, by our Armed Forces, and by city and state law-enforcement agencies.

All in all, these figures hint at some interesting facts. That 50 percent who work with tools, for instance, strikes us as being an important discovery. It tells us, in a way, what these members will be interested in. And, more important, it gives us an inkling of *how* they got that way . . . that love of tools and craftsmanship, of precision workmanship that branches so easily into participation in this gun hobby of ours.

☆ ☆ ☆

It's interesting, thinking along those lines, to find out how cosmopolitan is this membership of ours. There is still a letter in our files on White House stationery signed by Teddy Roosevelt, forwarding a personal check for life membership. In the same folder are similar letters from President Taft and Elihu Root, among others. That letter from Secretary Root, incidentally, (written when he was in charge of the State Department), contains a line we might well adopt as one of the reasons for the NRA's existence . . . "that the young men of America shall know how to shoot straight." To go back further into the background of the NRA, Generals Sherman and Grant, years after their Civil War campaigns, became NRA members. And inventor Tom Edison also had a card in that same file.

COVER

National Women's Pistol Champ Alice Matthews is the subject of the third of Ray Stann's articles on our 1946 National Champions and of this month's cover picture, which was taken by Phil Roettinger in Tampa, Florida, at the National Mid-Winter Pistol Matches. Exposure was 1/50 second at f8, Daylight Kodachrome, with Contax II camera and two reflectors.

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The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America

VOLUME 95 NUMBER 7

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Declaration of Independence

TOO many Americans think of Independence Day as merely a celebration of our declaration of independence from the rule of Great Britain. So narrow a concept is as mischievous as it is misinformed. It would do much to clarify the thinking of troubled men throughout the world if we would review our history, stripping it of its superficialities, getting back to the *fundamentals* which dominated the minds of our forefathers when they gave the American Declaration of Independence to the peoples of the world on July 4, 1776.

No document in modern history so stimulated the morale of the common people of the world. It inspired and encouraged the whole revolutionary movement of the 19th Century which established republican forms of government in France and throughout the Western Hemisphere, and greatly broadened the powers of the parliamentary form of government in all of Europe. Results of such enormous portent to mankind would not have been possible had the Declaration of Independence been but a statement that the governments of the American colonies were formally separating themselves from the government of Great Britain. Such announcements, and their resultant wars, were an old story to the common people long before 1776. They were a story that had previously meant to them only suffering and tragedy. Why, then, did the American Declaration of Independence mean to those same people new hope, high resolve, and a promise of happiness? The answer, though simple, is too often obscured in the teaching of American history in American schools.

The American Declaration of Independence was, in fact, a *declaration of the principles of a form of government* in which the majesty of the *individual* was recognized as the only foundation on which the majesty of the *State* properly could rest. It was a declaration that no proper *government* could exist except by the consent of the *governed*. It declared that upon the dignity of the *individual* rested the dignity of the *State*. It was this declaration of the principle of the independence of the citizen, backed by the displayed willingness to fight for the principle, that relit the long-extinguished torch beckoning men to freedom throughout the world.

Americans, *that* is your heritage! That is what you should celebrate on Independence Day in 1947 and in every succeeding year. The separation of the colonial *governments* from the *government* of Great Britain was merely incidental to the greater fact that a long-forgotten ideal of government was being placed in actual operation. Here is the real heart of the American Declaration of Independence—

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That *to secure these rights,* Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers *from the consent of the governed,* That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely *to effect their Safety and Happiness.*"

Today all over the world, Communism, Fascism, Nazism, Socialism feed upon and fertilize one another. All over the world the dignity of Man is being subordinated to the majesty of the State. The pronounced trend, the inevitable end, is "to reduce the people under absolute despotism." America is not untouched by the disease. American statesmen lack a clear chart to guide them on a consistent course toward the establishment of truly representative forms of government throughout the world. Money alone will not do it. Armed might alone will not do it. These things must be only temporary supports for a ringing restatement of the principles set forth in the American Declaration of Independence. They lighted the path to real freedom for the common man in 1776. They will do the same in 1947 *if* America itself leads the way in putting the State back into its proper relationship with the Citizen of the State—the State the servant of man, not man the servant of the State.—C. B. L.

THE HAND THAT SETS THE TABLE CAN RULE THE PISTOL RANGE . . . MEET THE NATIONAL LADIES PISTOL CHAMP

Lay That Skillet Down, Babe!

By RAY STANN

LISTEN GALS . . . THIS IS FOR YOU. It's about a women's sports champion who can't power a golf ball 250 yards like Babe Didrikson, who can't swim the 880 like Ann Curtis, and who probably couldn't get over a high hurdle with a step stool.

It's about a young wife, age twenty-nine to be exact, very pretty and very feminine. Like most of the other 30,000,000 wives in the country she can fix breakfast for her husband in the morning, do the laundry, keep house, and wait dinner for *him* in the evening. She can wear nice clothes, play charming hostess at a party, and earn some money on her own as a public stenographer. But in her spare time she loads ammunition and shoots well enough to be the National Women's Pistol Champion!

We're talking, of course, about Alice Matthews, of Broomall, Pennsylvania, who one month from now will be defending her title at Camp Perry, Ohio. She will match her skill against a probable maximum of twenty other feminine handgun artists . . . and therein lies the story.

Alice thinks there ought to be more. She's asking for it . . . for more competition.

"I don't mean to say that the girls who are shooting today aren't competition. They are," moans Alice. "It's just that there aren't enough of them. Someone has got to do something to interest more women in the shooting game. Otherwise the women who are shooting now are going to drop out for lack of competition in their field and for lack of the companionship of other women."

The facts supporting Mrs. Matthews are these: The NRA Pistol Classification Book contains the names of some eighty women. That's eighty women pistol competitors of varying degrees of enthusiasm throughout the country, or about one gal to every forty or fifty males. Spread that number among the more than 100 registered pistol tournaments held in a year's time and you see how a girl could feel as out of place as the Pope at a Kremlin banquet.

Just a housewife five years ago, with a wandering pistol shooter for a husband, Alice Matthews listened to his explanations of the fundamentals of the game, learned to reload her .38 and .45 ammo, and today bemoans the shortage of feminine competitors on pistol ranges

"It's not unusual for me to travel to a match with George (her husband) and find that I'm the only woman entered. If not, there probably won't be more than one or two others unless it's a big tournament. Why, last year at the Nationals when I won the Championship there were only twelve women entered in the aggregate—counting me."

When she talks of women quitting the handgun game for lack of competition and companionship, Alice isn't merely passing secondhand judgment. If it weren't for the fact that her husband is such an enthusiastic pistolman, the Champ,

strangely enough, probably would toss up the game and confine her week-end revelments to trap shooting, boating, or art—diversions with which she has had some experience. She would, that is, unless there comes a sudden change in the pistol sport as far as feminine interest is concerned.

"As a matter of fact," she adds, "I shoot trap once in a while now, locally around Broomall, and there are always a lot more women around, and shooting, at those matches."

Mrs. M. is serious but she can't quite figure out why more of the fair sex do not flock to the pistol firing lines. Perhaps it can be explained simply as an aversion to pistols and revolvers by some of our womenfolk, who would as soon play with a coiled rattlesnake . . . or it may possibly be the mistaken belief that pistol shooting calls for special physical capabilities, an engineering degree, and a liberal sprinkling of hocus pocus. If such is the case then Champion Alice must punch out her scores with a sharp lead pencil, for she has none of those.

The tall, slender brunette, who could do quite a job as missionary for the sport, is convinced that here is a game that women can play. The only physical requirements she will list are a reasonably normal set of nerves and the patience to practice; the only background is about six easy lessons spent soaking up the fundamentals; the only equipment is a couple of guns and a case to carry them in . . . oh, yes, and a hairnet to keep the "permanent" permanent when the wind is up.

"That's the beauty of the pistol game in contrast to rifle shooting from a woman's viewpoint—the requirements are so few especially as far as dress is concerned," says the gal who can add more glamour to a firing line than fifty possibles. "We can wear skirts or shorts or slacks—whatever we want to—and we don't have to worry about lying down on the ground to do our shooting either. Another thing, handguns packed away in a shooting kit or an overnight bag are much more convenient and much less embarrassing to carry around in trains and hotel lobbies than are rifles."

Alice Matthews and husband George are familiar figures at pistol matches in the East. Both have classifications as high-average Experts

But there's one thing Alice is convinced of . . . tournament managers do nothing but scare the gals away by trying to give them too much—like scheduling events exclusively for women on a tournament program.

"I don't mean events where they have special women's prizes. They're all right. I'm talking about events like the one they had at Washington, D. C., last year when they put all the women up on the line at the same time in a special match. The men stood around behind the line and had a great time looking at the girls' legs and making them all feel mighty uncomfortable," protests Alice, who really shouldn't feel uncomfortable about her own pins. "The girls don't want any special treatment that makes them conspicuous. I'd say that outside of providing a few women's prizes, tournament managers should treat us just like any other shooter."

Alice actually got into the shooting game to keep from becoming a week-end widow, but it was only after her husband gave up the small-bore game and took to the handguns. Rifle shooting, she says, didn't exactly appeal to her because of the equipment involved.

"We had been married a couple of years and George was doing all the serious shooting for the Matthews family, and then he began to concentrate on the pistol. I went to the club with him once in a while in the evenings but I told him I wouldn't get into the game seriously until I had a gun of my own," Alice recalls. "Well, one night he came in, dropped a package beside me on the bed and told me to go to it. In it was my first gun . . . a .22 Woodsman, standard barrel. So, I became a pistol shooter."

That was in 1942, just five years ago, so there can be no complaint about her progress. In addition to her national title Alice has amassed an impressive collection of trophies, medals, and other hardware from matches all over the country, and they all but cover available wall space of the attractive rumpus room in the Matthews' neat, suburban Philadelphia home. Translated into cold figures the record is just as impressive. Alice's average is a respectable 90.09—high Expert—and just a shade below her husband's.

To credit such success to anything except the sound application of basic rules—and practice—is impossible. Alice learned her fundamentals from friend husband. Apparently it was a lesson well taught. But as far as practice is concerned, it comes a little harder, and a little longer.

"I keep a .38 revolver, unloaded, up on the bedroom chest," explains Mrs. Matthews who, incidentally, has no children. "And I'm always grabbing at it to squeeze off a few 'dry' shots while doing my housework. That's where most of my practice comes in, especially on week days. Once in a while we do some shooting out at West Chester or Media near here and on week ends we often go out to a farm not far away for some real shooting practice.

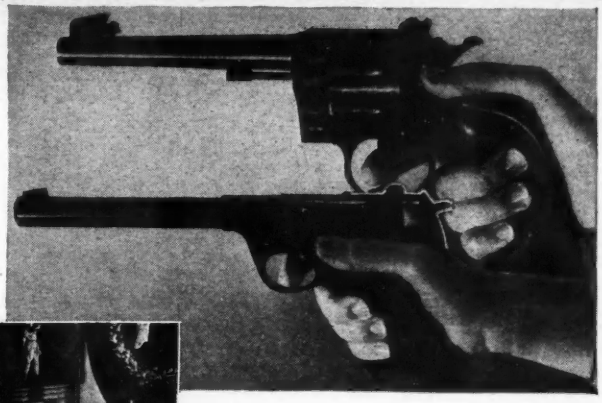
"That's a lot of fun. George and I and a couple of others from our club will go out and shoot little informal handicap matches for a nickel or a dime . . . and it's really good practice."

Both George and Alice do most of their practicing with their .22's because, they feel, the small-caliber gun allows them to concentrate more on the fundamentals. Besides, it is a lot more economical and, since they both fire .38 and .45 handloads in practice and in competition, it saves work.

The woman's titleholder, incidentally, does all her own reloading.

"It all dates back to before the war when I was firing in a big ladies' event at Passaic, New Jersey," she explains. "It looked like I was going to win when, on one of my last shots, came that awful 'pffft.' George had loaded all the ammunition up to that time and had simply missed the powder charge in that one. Well, he felt a lot worse about it than I did, I guess, but anyway we decided then and there that I was going to learn how to 'roll my own.'

"That's one thing we ought to get across to the girls . . . that you don't have to be a ballistics expert to shoot, any more than you have to be a mechanic to drive a car. It's the same way with reloading. All I had to learn was a few simple mechanical operations since we already had the tools, and now I'm loading all my ammo, except the .22's of course."



Sitting in the corner of her den, surrounded by medals and trophies won in hundreds of matches, Alice Matthews doesn't look like a woman with a championship pistol grip

Big George Matthews, who stands six feet four and weighs well over 200 pounds, has fitted the small spare bedroom into a workshop and there, in addition to his reloading, does a little stock work and general tinkering for his own amazement. He has the background, having worked as a toolmaker before the war. Serving in the Navy during the war, Matthews moved fast and was discharged as a Commander after having served at Exeter, England, for more than a year and a half as Chief Procurement Engine Supply Officer. So enthusiastic did he become over work with the larger machinery that after his discharge he hooked up with a company dealing in construction equipment.

Nowadays a good part of his time is spent on the road in the Pennsylvania-Delaware-Maryland area and on many of those trips he takes his wife—and a couple of varmint rifles—along. Alice is an enthusiastic varminter and the talent she shows in handling the longer-barrelled arm indicates that she probably would cut quite a swath in small-bore ranks if that were her sport.

Mrs. Matthews, who is five feet nine, weighs 130 pounds, and has blue eyes and light brown hair, didn't waste her time while Hubby was in the service. After failing in an attempt to join the lady Marines she went to work for the Philadelphia Transportation Company and dove into the NRA's preinduction training program. She got her NRA Instructor rating and spent her evenings instructing pistol classes under the auspices of the Broomall Sportsmen's Club. She didn't get in too much competitive firing during those days but probably made up some ground on George with her continuous practice.

The Champ now has two of her own guns and is after the third necessary to complete her set. She has now switched to the Hi-Standard .22 and has a neat .38 Colt for the centerfire matches.

An infraction of the rules which stemmed from a borrowed gun and probably cost her the National Mid-winter Championship at Tampa last March has got Alice on the search for her own .45 now. The incident occurred when she borrowed a friend's Colt for a .45 event and then swapped horses in the middle of the stream when the gun had a malfunction. Ignorance of the law is no excuse, said the referee, and Alice was disqualified. Everyone felt so bad about it, including herself, that she decided then not to compete in any more .45 matches until she has located a gun to suit her.

Although she has had almost meteoric success in her short but busy pistol career, Alice insists that you can't just wish your way to the top. On the firing line Alice is a stylist, demonstrating sound application of the fundamentals. But that flawless form is the result of proper instruction by her husband, constant practice, and proper physical conditioning.

So, ladies, are you lonely on week ends while the Old Man is out to the state shoot? Does your husband leave you nights to go down to the shootin' club? Then lay that skillet down, Babe . . . Get a pistol. ♦ ♦ ♦

"There was anguish in his pleading—deep, personal anguish."

Steve Returns

by ARCHIBALD RUTLEDGE

FOR SOME MONTHS MY GOOD NEGRO STEVE had been missing from his accustomed haunts on my plantation. I believe his disappearance had been occasioned by his slight failure to identify as his own a hog he had slain and devoured with relish. As a result, he had been given a new striped suit to wear, had been housed and fed in a public building, and had spent his time manicuring the public roads. But at dusk one winter evening I heard his unmistakable shuffling gait on the back steps, and his wary lifting of the latch. Knowing just who it was, I called to him before I saw him. In he came, huge, shy, awkward —the same old Steve. I made no mention of his recent detention.

"I done come to see you," he announced. I thought as much, and nerved myself for what I thought was going to be the Touch of Touches.

"They give me money when I left," he told me, to my great joy. "I come to see you 'bout what I done see today by Ghost Point, which is a place where I don't like to go, but I was looking for a hog."

"Again?" I asked.

"Mine, this time," he told me, grinning abashed.

"Well, what did you see at Ghost Point?"

"I see a buck with horns wide same like a paddle, and I see three old gobbler. And they didn't see me. That's why I come to you."

Ghost Point is a peninsula jutting out into Wambaw Creek, about three miles from my plantation. It is a lonely and beautiful place, in the heart of the wilderness.

"Steve," I asked, "when did you see them?"

"I come from them to you. It was 'bout sundown."

It has been my experience that it is always well to check the time element of a Negro's report on game. He may not tell me what he has seen until he runs short of change, which may be a week after the occurrence. But Steve's story sounded all right. There was no special reason why the buck should leave such a place as Ghost Point that night, and the turkeys would probably roost right there in the giant pines or the moss-shrouded cypresses.

"What do you figure we should do?" I asked him.

"You must to go that old cedar stump near the old still what I used to fire for Mas' Bob. You know that stump?"

I told him that I did, and I listened very carefully, for Steve is an uncanny wizard about wildwood strategy.

"At dayclean you go there and wait. I ain't gwine with you. I coming up the creek bank to the Point, and then I is coming up to you. I know you gwine shoot."

But this business of being ready for a big buck and three old gobblers at the same time had me puzzled. Another thing troubled me.

"Suppose I do go there at daylight, and you don't wake up, Steve? How will I know that you're not snoring right beside Amnesia while I'm shivering there in that cold swamp?"

"When I say I gwine, I gwine," he answered laconically.

And I believed him. Moreover I could begin to see the nature of his strategy. A Negro like Steve can slink along through the woods like a wraith. And he is capable of thinking the thoughts of wild creatures. When, therefore, he gives me woodland advice, it is Gospel to me.

"Steve," I asked, "did Amnesia give you a nice welcome home?"

He considered.

"Cap'n," he said soberly, "Is you ever dodge skillet and rollin' pin? Dat's all de welcome I git home. But maybe if we have a good luck this morning, and you will give me a shoulder of that big wide-horn buck, Amnesia may cool down some, she so lub venison."

It looked to me as if I were called upon to do the kind of shooting that would end a domestic crisis. But, in a way, all good shooting does that; for the man who brings home his buck or his gobbler or his brace of pheasants can count on a welcome.

"Steve," I told my dusky woodsman as I gave him a tall glass of an old plantation concoction called Saints' Delight, "I will be on the cedar stump at daylight. And don't you fail me."

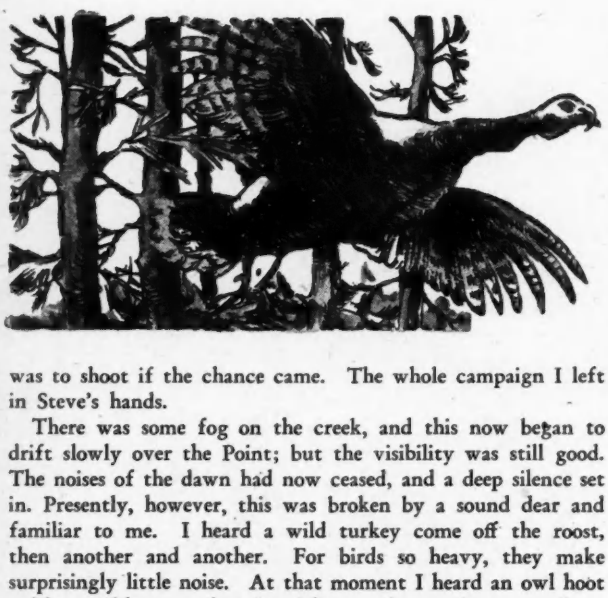
It was still dark and starry when I left home. The air was crisp but there was no wind. I drove two miles, and there I had to leave my car. Then I made my way through the mysterious woods, eerie at that hour. In my progress I started at least three deer, but could not see them; and once I ran afoul of a huge wild boar eating acorns under a live oak tree. He tore off through the brush like a rhinoceros. At length, just as wan daylight began to appear, I found myself on the old cedar stump at the base of Ghost Point.

I love the wilderness at that hour. The creatures that roam the darkness are stealing into their coverts; and the creatures of the daylight are awakening. If the air is still, as it was that morning, it is the best time to hear the sounds of the forest, and to try to interpret them. But on this particular occasion I was too much concerned with sterner stuff to be studying nature. As the light increased I saw with an approving eye how wisely old Steve had chosen my stand. On my right, 100 yards away, was the edge of a gloomy swamp, full of water. At an equal distance away on my left was the deep and broad creek. Ghost Point itself was before me, glimmering away for a half mile, grown to the stately kind of timber that wild turkeys love to roost in. On the Point were dense little jungles of scrub canes, myrtles, and pines—ideal bedding places for deer.

Under the circumstances, as I might expect either of two kinds of noble game, or perhaps both, I put twos in my right barrel and a No. 1 buckshot in my left. This load chambers sixteen shot, and is, I believe, the best all-round shotgun load for deer. It never seemed to me possible that I might have a chance at both a deer and a turkey; for if I shot one, the other would naturally vanish in the other direction. But we can never tell what will happen to us in the big woods. If hunting were mathematical, there would be no sport to it.

A HUNTING STORY, REDOLENT OF PINEY WOODS AND BLACK-WATER SWAMPS OF THE OLD SOUTH . . . A NOTABLE FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE RIFLEMAN OF THE DEAN OF AMERICAN SPORTING WRITERS

The owls were giving their last hoots. The first birds, the cardinal and the phoebe, were awakening. I could hear, at some distance, a subdued rustling—no doubt racoons and opossums, wildcats and foxes, retiring from their night's marauding expedition. Steve, I thought, ought to be by that time on the creek bank, along which he would slink like a shadow. Somewhere between him and me, even at that moment, there might be a regal buck and three old bearded men. While, of course, I would rather kill a great stag than any turkey, I would just as soon kill a fine wild gobbler as an ordinary deer. Perhaps Steve was still in bed. But when I considered that far more than merely giving me sport was the purpose of this hunt, I felt that he was even now where he should be. He has no sense of time; and he can be as slow as a glacier. But he generally knows what he is about. When day broadened and nothing happened, I figured that he might be waiting for the turkeys to come off the roost. This they will never do while the woods are still dusky. The old buck, if he were in the neighborhood, would be lying down about this time in one of those yellow patches of cane. Well, I decided, all I had to do



was to shoot if the chance came. The whole campaign I left in Steve's hands.

There was some fog on the creek, and this now began to drift slowly over the Point; but the visibility was still good. The noises of the dawn had now ceased, and a deep silence set in. Presently, however, this was broken by a sound dear and familiar to me. I heard a wild turkey come off the roost, then another and another. For birds so heavy, they make surprisingly little noise. At that moment I heard an owl hoot softly, as if he were drowsy. The sound seemed to come from the ground. I knew it was good old Steve, and that he was warning me. After a few moments I could hear the turkeys raking the leaves desultorily. And they were coming nearer. I extracted the No. 1 and slipped in another 2. These old swamp gobblers need a terrific wallop to put them down to stay. Soon I saw one, and he was heading my way. I got my gun up. The fog worried me now, making the judgment of distance bad, and all objects indistinct. I heard the other birds but they were off to my left, over a slight rise, and I could not see them. When the one I saw got within thirty-five yards, I drove him down. One other rose and went across the creek. The third took a little confused run, and then came over my head, flying like a grouse in that he was corkscrewing among the dusky tupelos of the swamp. By great good fortune I killed him in midair, and he fell resoundingly. Then all was still. I could see both birds lying dead on the ground. This was indeed unexpectedly grand luck. But as yet I had not helped Steve out of his dilemma at home. I did not move but, slipping in two No. 1's, I waited.

All was silence for perhaps ten minutes; then I could hear Steve a good way off, walking stealthily. At Ghost Point a buck's favorite maneuver is to dodge back down the Point and swim the creek, where it is very narrow. If he were here, I was not surprised that the gun had not roused him. While sometimes he may slip out a long way ahead of any noise, at other times he will lie as close as a rabbit.

Suddenly, about halfway down the Point I heard the unmistakable rip of a big deer getting up and going places. Then Steve cut loose. He just opened that cavernous mouth of his and yelled like seven devils. I had a faint glimpse of him dashing this way and that, jumping like a yearling over immense old fallen timbers. I knew what was happening. The buck had started back, and he was trying to turn him—one of the very hardest things in all hunting to do. Now suddenly his wild incoherent yells and imprecations turned to "Look out! Cap'n, don't miss!"

There was anguish in his pleading—deep personal anguish. And here the buck came. Steve really had him scared, for he was rocking over the logs and the brush as if he were carrying special delivery mail. He was coming so straight for my cedar stump that when he got within thirty yards, I moved my shoulders to the right. He veered left, and I drove him. Down he came, mighty antlers and all, and almost before he had hit the ground, Steve was on him. My strategist held up the proud head for me to see the horns.

"Same like I say," said Steve, "wide same like a paddle."

Well, there are bucks and bucks; some have everything—size, beauty, elegance, and superb horns. It was so with this old ten-pointer, the veteran, I knew, of many an escape.

"How 'bout dem turkey?" asked Steve.

"There is one," I said nonchalantly, "and the other is right over there."

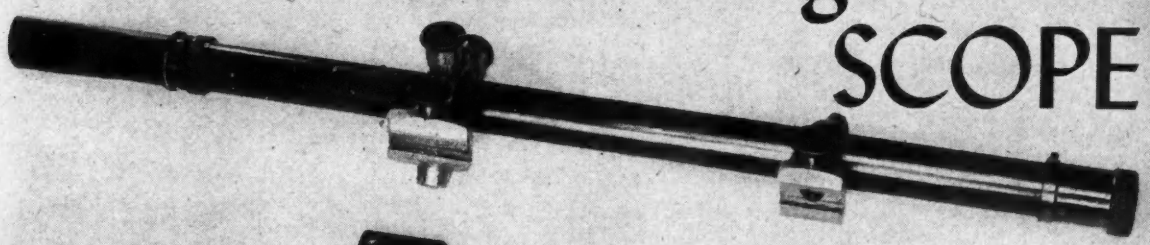
"Bless God," he muttered, and he meant it with all his heart and soul.

"Now, Steve," I said, "although a shoulder of venison might do you some good at home, seeing as how I have two gobblers, I am going to give you two haunches of this buck. They ought to bring Amnesia to her knees."

"Boss," he answered, "if she been a regular 'oman, it would; but she is special. Howsomeber, I think from now on she will keep the skillet on the stove and the rollin' pin on de shelf—where dey belongs." ♦ ♦ ♦

All Regional rifle and pistol tournaments scheduled in July will be fired, on dates and at locations designated on page 20 of the June RIFLEMAN, except for one change. The Pacific Northwestern Regional Pistol Matches scheduled to be fired in Seattle, Washington, on July 26 and 27, have been cancelled. This regional will be held on July 5 and 6 in South Bend, Wash.

Mounting that SCOPE



DRILLING A COUPLE OF HOLES MAY LOOK EASY, BUT IT CAN BE A MEAN PROBLEM FOR THE BASEMENT GUNSMITH . . .

By HAROLD E. MacFARLAND

MOUNTING A SCOPE IS SIMPLE. All you do is bore from two to four holes in your gun, tap threads in these holes, and screw the scope on. It's surprising though how few people can make a satisfactory job of it. Weaver used to furnish shims for use in his "T"-type mounts. Shims make a sloppy job and no serious gun nut should countenance their use—but believe me, they were needed in most cases of amateur mounting in order to get the scope to point at the center of impact of the gun.

And it isn't the amateurs alone who have trouble. I examined a target rifle upon which a scope had been mounted by a nationally advertised firm of gunsmiths in the East. The dovetail blocks looked a little cockeyed, but the owner had enough latitude of adjustment in his target-type mounts to get the gun zeroed, so he went ahead and used it. After a few shots, the scope fell off the barrel. The whole story was then revealed. The gunsmith had drilled and tapped one set of holes. These proved to be out of line so he moved the blocks over a little and drilled another set. By this time he was probably getting flustered because he spoiled the threads in the second set of holes. Undaunted, he jammed the screws in the holes and shipped the rifle to the poor sucker who owned it. The worst was that this sacrilege was committed on a fine heavy handmade target barrel by one of our best makers.

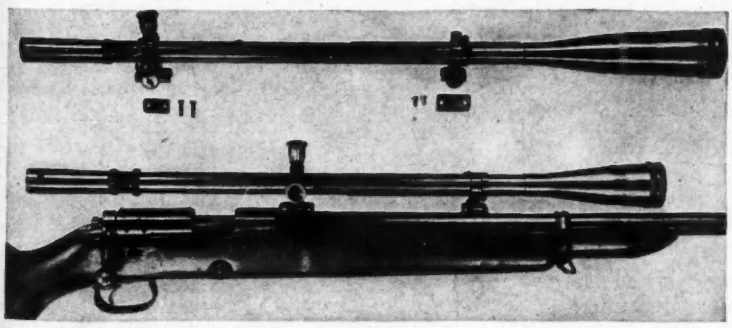
I examined another gun whose owner played safe. He sent the gun to the scope manufacturer for mounting. This manufacturer, like everyone else in the gun game during the war years, was busy. From examination of the rifle, it seemed that he had drilled and tapped the receiver for a side mount without stripping the action. His tap had struck some piece of the internal mechanism and spoiled the threads in one hole. I judge he, too, was undaunted because he moved over and drilled another hole in both mount and gun. This job held, but it was hardly what the customer paid for.

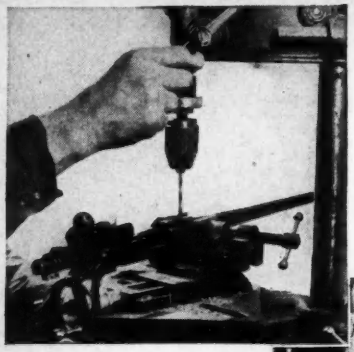
Depth should be checked constantly while holes are drilled in barrels

These cases, of course, are exceptional; but they seem to indicate that amateurs blithely rush in where professionals fear to tread. The biggest mounting difficulty comes from a failure to appreciate the potentialities of a very short mounting radius. The scope in commonest use perhaps is the older Weaver with the "T" mount; it is a classic example of a scope which fails to take advantage of the benefit to be derived from a short mounting radius. The mounting screws on the "T" are two and one-half inches apart, center to center. A movement of one thousandth of an inch on this mount would shift the point of impact of the bullet nearly three inches at 200 yards. If the mount were a sixteenth of an inch from where it should be, the center of impact would be fifteen feet from the line of sight. This, of course, is much greater than the latitude of internal adjustment of the scope, and called for the use of shims.

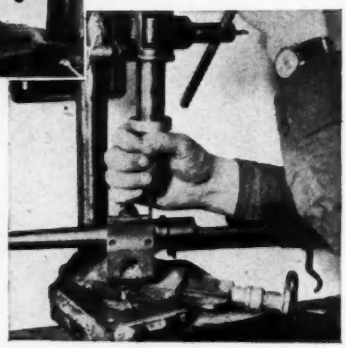
We have a multiplicity of mount types to choose

Though they look simpler than most scopes, these popular target instruments (Lyman Super Targetspot, above, and Targetspot) require exactness in placing of blocks and mounting





Using a drill press, holes for screws which fasten scope bases to barrel are drilled (left) and then tapped by turning the chuck manually



from. They range from good to bad, with most of them merely indifferent. For years we have had no good mounts but now it seems to be every gunsmith's ambition to design a better mount so that the world will beat a path to his door. There is no one best mount. Each must be considered on its merits for a particular gun and the particular use to which it will be put. The average gun nut must count his pennies; so price is a consideration for which he must sacrifice merit. You pay your money and you take your choice.

For the target scope, we have little choice. Luckily, most of our target rifles are factory drilled and tapped. For that special job though, you still must have the dovetails put on the barrel. This job looks easy but is actually one of the nastiest tasks of scope mounting. The holes have to be deep enough to give a good full thread, and shallow enough to run no risk of dipping into and ruining a fine bore. Each little block must be located centrally over the bore and lined with the other. The holes must be drilled vertically, something which I never succeeded in doing without a good drill press or lathe. With the slightest misalignment, your pet rifle will look like something the cat dragged in.

Next in order of mounting difficulty is the separate ring mount for the top of the receiver. Ring mounts offer no flat surfaces for alignment with either a level or square. All you can do to align them is to strike an imaginary line through their center and project that line through the extractor cut, the bore, the cocking piece channel, or any other visible known center of the gun. Clamp the ring in place, drill your holes, and pray to your patron saint that the customer's eye isn't any straighter than yours.

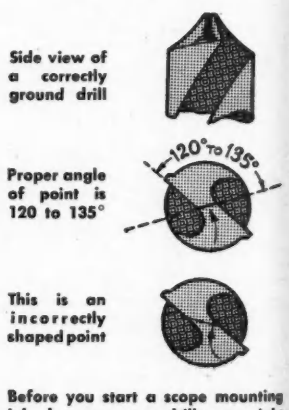
One-piece top receiver mounts are perhaps the easiest of all to put on. Representatives of this type are the Redfield, Williams, and the Mashburn. The King-Pike, while a two-piece outfit might be included because it offers flat surfaces for truing, and the halves are easily aligned with each other.

This is the Stith side mount on a Winchester Model 70

Receiver side mounts are something else again. Griffin & Howe mounts and Herkner mounts are machined so closely to a fit that they will probably line up when clamped in place. They have flat surfaces to aid in proving they are straight when squared or leveled with any flats on the receiver. The Weaver side mount is trickier. You can bore sight it but it has no flats, and for locating it centrally over the bore you can only use the old method of by guess and by gosh. Be especially careful when putting this mount on a Krag. I have seen them located so that the screw holes went into the magazine cutoff.

I seem to require a lot of tools to do a mounting job right. A good drill press is essential. It should have a depth gauge, a depth stop, a heavy press table vise, and it should be mounted level. I have yet to see the man who can point a hole in exactly the direction he means it to go with a hand drill. If you must use a hand drill, have a friend with a good eye stand by to line you up. I also like a hand drill for spotting centers on holes.

It is wise to secure a piece of plate glass and mount it level on the shop bench. A car windshield from the good old pre-safety glass era is fine. It is ground to a flat true surface. You will need a pair of V blocks with clamps, and a good assortment of C clamps and parallel clamps to anchor the mount to the action while getting the first hole located. A few strips of fibre, copper, or wood will protect mount and gun from marring by the clamps.

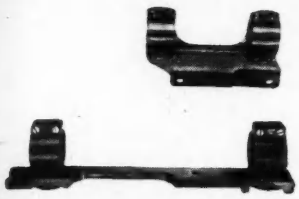


Before you start a scope mounting job, be sure your drills are right

You will need a scriber and a center punch. If you don't think these must be hard, just try to mark the location of a hole in a glass-hard Krag receiver with ordinary ones. I make both from lathe tools. The high-speed variety such as Rex 86, Rex 95, or Rex AA are of about the proper hardness. For a scriber, I mount a one-quarter-inch tool in a fibre handle and grind it to shape. For the punch I use a half-inch tool ground to about a sixty-degree point. I bring these points to a high polish on a sanding wheel since any scratches or grinder marks will cause them to shatter like glass at the first blow. If properly made, you can punch hard spring steel and then cut glass without resharpening. These work fine, and you can drill any tough receiver with an ordinary high-speed drill if you can keep a punched center going ahead of the bit.

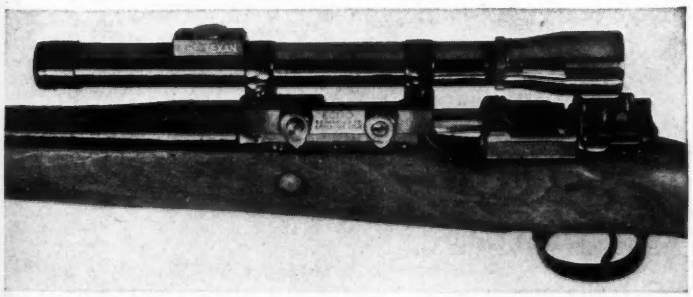
That takes care of about everything except the tap. The usual procedure is to order a tap and drill set with a scope mount. These are all right when used on mild steel but you will be in for trouble on a hardened receiver since most of the sets sent out with mounts

are of carbon steel. A high-speed drill will go through steel which a carbon drill won't. A high-speed steel tap is very desirable. A "Gun" tap is nothing new in the machinist's world but our gunsmith's supply houses seem to be just learning about it. This is a two-flute tap with an angular cutting edge and very shallow flutes. It naturally has much greater strength than the usual tap. All cutting is done by the angular cutting tip so any sharpening is done only at this point, keeping the tap useful as long as any teeth remain. Incidentally, it isn't called a gun tap because it was made for use on guns. In action, it shoots out a long curling chip ahead of it like a lathe tool and thus gets its name. Since the chip doesn't remain in and clog the flutes, the very shallow flute is permissible.



Two popular mounts for hunting scopes: Weaver side mount (above) and the Redfield bridge-type mount.

The first thing to determine in locating the scope mount is the position which will give proper eye relief. Most of our modern scopes are usable with a distance of two to five inches between the ocular lens and the eye. On most rifles it is advisable to set the scope so it will be about three inches from the eye when in normal shooting position. This is sufficient to allow safety from the recoil of a hasty shot. Scopes can scoop out an eye if you get too close to them. On some rifles, though, we must make a choice of evils. On the 1903 Springfield, the Mauser, and the 54 Winchester, the bolt handle will interfere with the scope. One can set the scope very high, as the Germans do, but this is not very good. It allows no cheek support on the stock. You can set the scope moderately high and bend the bolt, but this still isn't so good, for the same reason. Or you can set the scope down where it belongs—tight on the receiver, cut off the bolt handle, and weld on a new one shaped to miss the scope. This also necessitates a new safety. Such a job is a lot of work and requires professional skill to avoid spoiling the bolt with the heat of welding. The easiest way out is to mount the scope so that the ocular or rear lens is forward of the bolt handle. This will allow full five inches of eye relief. Mounting the scope this far forward will cut the field of view in half but it doesn't work out too badly, especially if the stock is shortened a little to allow you to sneak up on the scope.



Herkner's quick-detachable "Echo" side mount is made of heat-treated aluminum. The mount itself is rigidly fastened to the rifle with three steel screws and two tapered pins

With the rearward position determined, we are all set to position the mount. I usually do this by bore sighting. Put up a red bullseye 100 yards from the shop window in unobstructed view of the work bench. Slip a decapped empty shell in the chamber to use as a peep sight aperture. On those rifles which you can't look through, such as a Remington Autoloading, use a mirror, or better yet, the bore sighting device put out by Swain Nelson, the Nydar sight manufacturers. Line the gun up in the V blocks on the previously mentioned plate glass so that the bore is trained on the red bullseye. The plate glass is assumed to be level. Now be sure the gun is leveled horizontally on the glass. You can square the set up to any vertical flats on the receiver, or use a level on any horizontal flats for this purpose. Now if the mount is clamped in place and leveled the same way, it will automatically be located in a central position over the bore, excepting on those guns which eject from the top and, therefore, require side mounting. On these, you square and level anyway but only to get a workmanlike looking job. At the same time the mount is leveled, the scope must be aimed in proper relation to the bore sighting bullseye. First, make sure the reticule is set in its midway position in both directions. Then look up the 100-yard trajectory figures for the cartridge you expect to use. Double the midrange trajectory figure and aim the scope that much below the bullseye, with the bore still trained on the bullseye. If the mount is still level after this has been done, clamp it solidly to the barrel and scribe the outline of the first screw hole. An easy way to mark the center of this hole is to use a drill of screw body size. Put it in the hand drill and spin it through the hole in the mount enough to locate the center. Otherwise, remove the mount and center punch the marking.

The quick-detachable King-Pike mount can be installed almost as easily as a one piece mount. The two bases must be aligned before drilling screw holes

Clamp the rifle securely in the drill press vise, leveling in both directions. Set the drill at the lowest speed and proceed to drill the first hole. Unless you are sure that the drill bit has an accurately ground point, it is well to first drill a slightly undersize hole and follow up with the proper drill. If the cutting tip of the drill is slightly off center, it will drill an oversize hole. There shouldn't be any *(Continued on page 33)*

GERMAN Optical Codes

By MAJ. GEN. JULIAN S. HATCHER

UNDOUBTEDLY GOOD FIELD GLASSES were the most universally useful souvenirs that came out of Germany after the end of the war. The most easily procurable item of this kind was the Army Model 6-power field glass with 30 millimeter objectives.

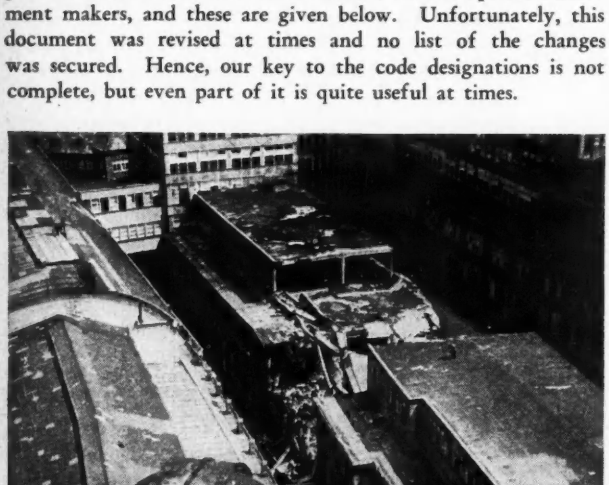
Judging by our correspondence, the fortunate owners of these glasses are as much interested in the inscription on the outside as they are in the optics. Typical of these queries is the following: "I have a field glass my son brought back from Germany. It has the word *Dienstglas* written on it. Can you tell me who made it?"

The answer to this question is no—as the word *Dienstglas* means simply *service glass*, indicating that it was made to standard Germany Army specifications.

But if the lucky owner had gone a little further and had told us that the glass also bore, for example, the letters "beh," we could have told him his glass was made by E. Leitz; or if the letters were "ddx," it would mean he had a Voigtlander product.

The illustration (right) shows how these code letters look. This is a telescope sight mounted on the German Kar 43 semi-automatic rifle. The letters "dow" mean that the sight was made by Optitechna, in Prerau, Czechoslovakia. The other letters GW ZF 4 are not part of the code, but are simply an abbreviation of "Gewehr Zielfernrohr 4 Fach," meaning *rifle telescope sight, 4 power.*

The Army picked up a secret German document containing part of these code letter identifications of the optical instrument makers, and these are given below. Unfortunately, this document was revised at times and no list of the changes was secured. Hence, our key to the code designations is not complete, but even part of it is quite useful at times.



Optical instruments coded "bic" were manufactured at Zeiss plant in Jena. Bomb damage was slight, as shown in this 1945 photograph by the author

It should be noted that these codes apply only to government material. Optical goods intended for trade channels carry the maker's name but not the code. A pair of field glasses that I purchased at the Zeiss factory in Jena in 1945 has no code letters but the full Zeiss name instead.

bch	Ernst Leitz G.m.b.H., Wetzlar
bck	Hensoldt Werk für Optic u. Mechanik, Herborn
bic	Zeiss Militarabteilung, Jena
bmj	Hensoldt u. Sohne, M. Optische Werk A.G., Wetzlar
bpd	Optische Anstalt C. P. Goerz, Vienna
byg	Joh. Wyksen, Optische u. Feinmaschin, Katowitz
ccx	Optische u. Feinmechanische Werke Hugo Meyer and Co., Gorlitz
cro	R. Fuess Optische Industrie, Steglitz, Berlin
ctn	Hanseatische Werkstatten für Feinmechanik u. Optik, Freidricks and Co.
cxn	Emil Busch A.G., Optische Industrie, Rathenow
czn	Emil Busch A.G., Optische Industrie, Rathenow
ddx	Voigtlander u. Sohn A.G., Braunschweig
dow	Optitechna, Prerau, Czecho-Slovakia
dpv	Zeiss Ikon, Dresden
dpv	Zeiss Ikon, Goerzwerke, Zehlendorf, Berlin
dpx	Zeiss Ikon, A.G., Stuttgart
dym	Runge and Kaulfuss, Rathenow
dzl	Optische Anstalt Oigee, Berlin
eaf	Mechanoptik Gesellschaft für Präzisions—technik, Aude and Reipe Optische Industrie, Babelsberg
eso	Optische Werke G. Rodenstock, Munich
eug	Optische Präzisions Werke G.m.b.H., Warsaw
fco	Sendlinger Optische Glaswerke G.m.b.H., Zehlendorf, Berlin
fwr	Optische Anstalt Saalfeld G.m.b.H., Saalfeld
fxp	H. Kollmorgen G.m.b.H., Berlin
gkp	Rufs Co., Kassel
gug	Ungarische Optische Werke A.G., Budapest
guj	Werner D. Kuehn Optische Industrie, Steglitz, Berlin
hdv	Optische Werk Osterode G.m.b.H., Osterode, Harz
hkm	Carl Braun A.G., Optische Industrie, Nürnberg
jfp	Dr. Carl Leiss, Optische Mechanische Instrumente, Steglitz, Berlin
jve	Optisches Werk Ernst Ludwig, Weixdorf
krg	Emil Busch A.G., Optische Industrie, Rathenow
kwe	Gamma Feinemechan u. Optische Werke, Budapest
lmg	Carl Zeiss, Jena
lwg	Optische Werk Osterode G.m.b.H., Freiheit bei Osterode (Harz)
lww	Huet et Cie (Huet & Co.), Paris
lwx	O. P.L. (Optique et Précision de Levallois), Levallois (Paris)
lwy	Societe Optique et Méchanique de Haute Précision, Paris
pvf	Optische Werk C. Reichert, Vienna. ◆ ◆ ◆

HOMEMADE VARMINT BULLETS

By SAMUEL CLARK

EARLY IN 1945 MY GOOD FRIEND Harvey Donaldson, who had painstakingly coached me on Schuetzen matters, began to bombard me with letters describing the sport to be had at woodchuck hunting in the Mohawk Valley in New York State and the phenomenal accuracy that could be obtained from the high-speed .22 caliber varmint and target rifles used in the sport. Almost before I had begun to weaken, who should appear at my door one morning but that good friend of all gunmen, the Expressman, bearing in his arms one of Donaldson's own pet .22 caliber rifles, so that I might see for myself.

Well, this settled the matter. In a very short time I was the possessor of several exceedingly fine .22 caliber high-speed target rifles. I was determined to test them carefully and eventually to own one capable of shooting the almost unbelievably small groups of which I had had an occasional report.

When friend Donaldson's .219 varmint rifle (AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, February, 1947, page 22) first made its appearance, I lost no time in purchasing a large supply of .22 caliber jacketed bullets from several commercial makers. I had at that time not the slightest doubt that the problem of bullets was settled once and for all. Had I given the matter more careful thought, however, I would have realized my error. In testing rifles capable of averaging ten-shot groups at 100 yards rest which vary only from .75 to 1.50 inches and lacking bullets which are *known* to be practically perfect and perfectly suited to the barrel being tested, it may be impossible to realize the best accuracy of the rifle in question.

Not understanding the importance of this point, therefore, I wasted about a year's time and considerable good barrel steel in actually trying out every make of .22 caliber commercial bullets I could obtain. It was not uncommon to try several lots of the same make of bullet with results varying from good to poor. Eventually, I realized that what I was doing was testing bullets rather than rifles.

When this dawned on me, the only remaining course seemed to be to make my own bullets, so that practically all conditions could be controlled and absolute uniformity between each lot of bullets could be assured. Without any further loss of time, I ordered a set of R.C.B.S. bullet-making swages from Fred Huntington of Oroville, California. From the day of their arrival, I ceased testing bullets and started testing the accuracy of rifles.

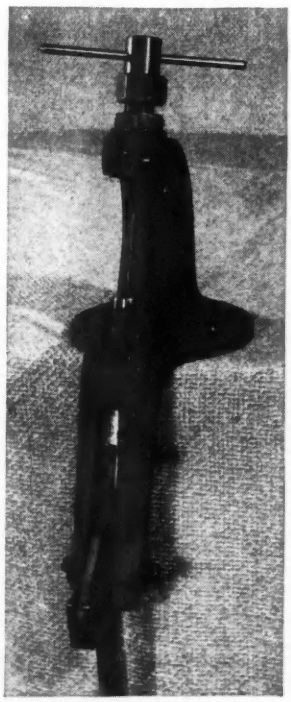
Using jacketed bullets that can easily be swaged at home, one can entirely eliminate a difficulty very common to high-speed rifles. When one makes his own jacketed bullets there need be no variation from lot to lot, there need be no unaccountably wild shots due to a fold in the jacket at the point or some other less noticeable defect. At low cost one can buy enough lead and bullet jackets for a year's use or five years if desired, and the last lot made will shoot just as well as the first one.

When the set of bullet-making dies arrived from Fred Huntington, I was much pleased with their appearance and reasonable cost. The outfit consisted of the swage itself, ram, base punch, lead cutter, ten pounds of lead wire, and 1,000 copper bullet jackets. These, in conjunction with the Pacific loading tool, are everything necessary to set up shop. The cost of this equipment, not including the Pacific tool, was less than forty dollars. It is plain to see that at $2.50 a hundred, which is currently paid for one good brand of bullets, the outfit will have paid for itself when approximately 2,000 bullets have been made. If one is to consider the cost of 100 bullets made in this outfit,

when groups begin to open up and game is missed at short ranges, it's time to think of the accuracy of your loads . . . and to make your own bullets

materials only and exclusive of the time spent, it is just sixty-six cents. I have shot 100 consecutive shots from my .219 Donaldson-Wasp rifle using bullets made in my R.C.B.S. die and the average size of ten-shot groups measuring from center to center of widest shots is only .781 inch. This happened to be the first 100 shots from this particular rifle. No doubt a smaller average for 100 consecutive shots fired on different days could be shown if it would mean anything. When we consider the error of aim at bench rest, the reader may draw his own conclusions as to how near perfection were the bullets made in these dies and used in the test mentioned.

The operation of making jacketed bullets is extremely simple. Nothing but common sense and a continual striving for uniformity are necessary.

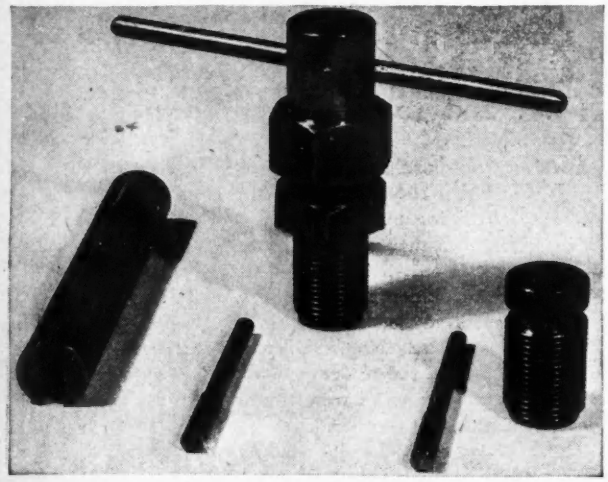


The two parts of the bullet are a lead core which is cut from lead wire furnished with the dies, and a copper bullet jacket which looks about like a fired .22 Long Rifle case without the rim. Any weight of bullet desired may be made, from 40 to 70 grains, simply by adjusting the swage after the correct weight of lead core and proper length of copper jacket are selected. These jackets come in various lengths: .575 inch for 40 to 48 grain bullets, .675 inch for 48 to 54 grain bullets, .705 inch for 54 to 60 grain, and .735 inch for 60 to 70 grain bullets. Suppose we select the 55 grain .22 caliber jacketed bullet to illustrate the operation of the R.C.B.S. swage.

An R.C.B.S. bullet-making swage (at top) in a heavy Pacific loading tool. Base punch and ram are in the tool, ready for bullet swaging

First cut several pieces of lead wire about ten inches in length. Then, on a flat surface roll each back and forth under a piece of glass or other suitable material until it is reasonably straight. Adjust the setscrew on the lead wire cutter so that a piece of lead is cut which together with the .705 inch jacket weighs 55 grains. Cut 100 lead cores from the pieces of lead wire. Select 100 .705 inch jackets and seat one core in each jacket. An arbor press with a ram just large enough to enter the open end of the bullet jacket can be used to press these cores lightly into the jackets, using only pressure enough so that the lead is expanded to just fill the sides of the jacket.

After the cores are seated in the jackets, we come to the actual swaging of the bullets. In this operation the bullet-



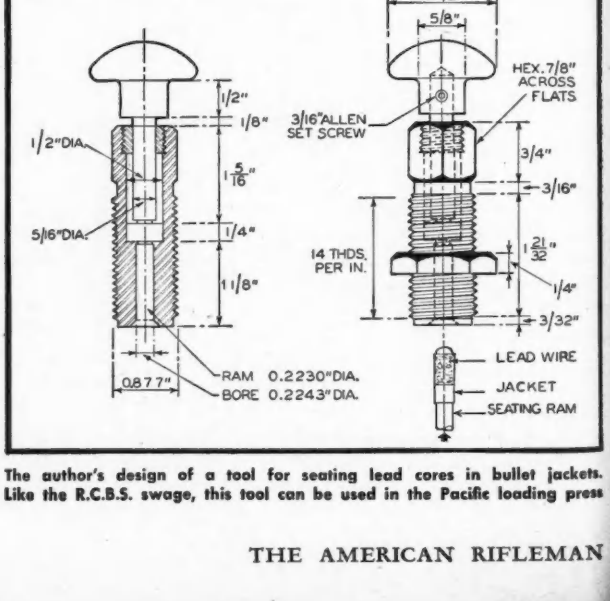
Parts of the R.C.B.S. bullet swage (left to right): ram which replaces case holder in Pacific tool; base punch which fits in top of ram and pushes jacket up into die for forming bullet; bullet-forming die, top section of which forms point of bullet and unscrews to allow removal of the finished bullet; another base punch for forming recessed base bullets; the ring die used for reducing diameter of bullet if desired

making die is screwed into the Pacific tool and a ram takes the place of the regular cartridge holder. This ram, recessed at the top for a base punch, is loosely held in place by an Allen setscrew. The base punch should be held loosely rather than solidly by the setscrew in order to allow it to center itself properly in the die.

Now we are ready to form the first complete bullet. The jacket containing the core is held in the fingers of the left hand (if right handed) directly beneath the opening at the bottom of the bullet swage. The handle of the Pacific tool is brought upwards, forcing the core and jacket, open end up, into the die. By adjusting the set nut on the swage it can be located so that when the handle of the Pacific tool is at the top of its swing the bullet is perfectly formed with just a slight pin point of lead showing. The swage itself being made in two parts, the top or point forming section may be unscrewed to inspect the bullet point while final adjustments of the swage are being made. When the point of the bullet appears to be satisfactory, set aside this first bullet to be used in fouling and proceed with the others. Now that the final adjustment of the swage is made, the die should be vented while forming each bullet. To do this proceed as before by pushing the core and jacket up into the die until the handle of the Pacific tool is about parallel with the floor. Then unscrew the top section of the die one full turn and back, bring the handle of the Pacific tool to its top position. Remove the top section of the die and push out the bullet with the follower provided for this purpose.

When I first commenced to swage my own jacketed bullets, the copper jackets were used as received but I soon became convinced that an improvement could be made by cadmium plating the jackets before use, as is commonly done by some makers of commercial bullets. It may be that Fred Huntington will see fit to cadmium plate the jackets he furnishes with his R.C.B.S. dies. In any case, it should be done to avoid the difficulties of copper fouling in the rifle bore, a difficulty which becomes progressively worse as the velocity is increased. Many claim no disadvantages from shooting high velocity .22 caliber bullets that have not been cadmium plated. Others believe they solve the problem by the use of graphite wads. My own results with the .219 Donaldson-Wasp rifle at velocities between 3600 and 3700 feet per second have been best, however, when using jackets that have been cadmium plated. This is, in any case, an inexpensive operation and can be done by any firm which does the work commercially. It should be pointed out, however, that the matter of cadmium plating is of more importance to users of .22 caliber rifles than to those who shoot the .25, .27, and .30 calibers since the velocities will average higher with the smaller bullet.

Another point of great advantage to those who use the R.C.B.S. outfit for extreme accuracy is the employment of a proper tool for seating the cores in the jackets. While an arbor press or similar press is recommended, it is difficult to manage such a tool so that exactly the same pressure is used in seating each core in its jacket. The Pacific loading press is especially designed to perform this operation well. Therefore, I made a drawing of a simple tool that could be screwed into the Pacific frame for this purpose and had it made up by a local mechanic. Later my friend Dick Morgan saw it in operation. He improved on the idea and made a better one which I purchased from him. This core seater, which is illustrated, takes the position of the R.C.B.S. swage in the Pacific frame. In seating the cores in the jackets this tool is used almost exactly the same as is the bullet swage except that the bullet

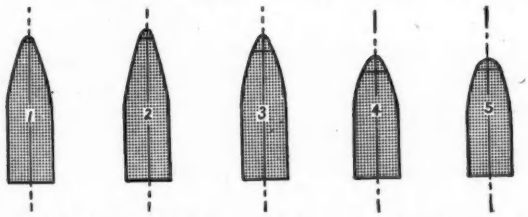


The author's design of a tool for seating lead cores in bullet jackets. Like the R.C.B.S. swage, this tool can be used in the Pacific loading press

jacket containing the core enters the core seater base first instead of point first as is the case when the bullet is swaged. It can be adjusted by the set nut so that the core is pressed into the jacket by the punch with any desired pressure and the jacket may then be expelled by a light blow with the palm of the hand on the knob at the top. This is a very real asset in making bullets and I have no doubt that Fred Huntington will soon offer a similar tool as a part of his commercial equipment.

Although the lead cutter which is furnished with the R.C.B.S. equipment does a very uniform job of cutting off the cores, it is plain that if the finest result is desired nothing will take the place of weighing the cores themselves on a good powder scale. If one lays a coarse file on the bench beside the scale, any excess lead can be removed from each lead core by passing its end lightly along the file before again checking the weight. Unless the cores are of uniform weight, it is practically impossible to use exactly the same pressure in seating the cores in the jackets. This is essential to fine accuracy. In addition, the completed bullets will vary in weight and in the amount of lead exposed at the point if this is not done.

I use no lubrication whatever in making these bullets, either when swaging the bullet itself or when placing the lead in the jacket. On one occasion I had some poorly plated bullets and on these the cadmium plating was so rough that I tried using



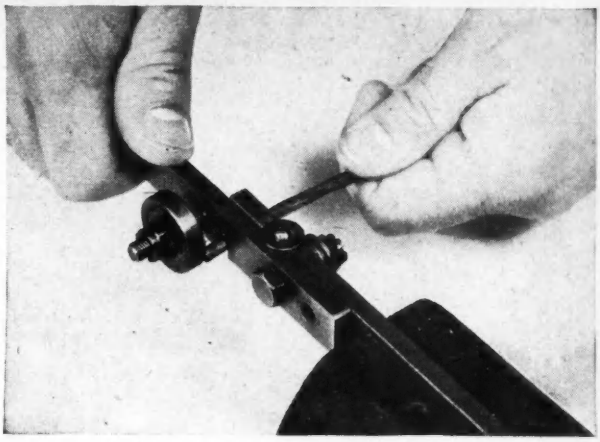
Five typical shapes of bullets made in R.C.B.S. dies. The author says that number 1, his own bullet, has the least resistance to air because it is more rounded at the shoulder and has almost an 8S point

talcum powder and powdered graphite which allowed them to pass through the dies smoothly. This was the only occasion I used any lubrication and there is apparently not the slightest need of it if even a fair job of cadmium plating is done.

In regard to bullets not coming out each time with the same amount of lead exposed, this is I believe due entirely to variations in the length of the bullet jacket itself. These will vary materially in length and by sorting them carefully into about three lots, using for this purpose a good steel caliper, I am able to eliminate this trouble.

I have explained that the Pacific frame is particularly well adapted to bullet making in the R.C.B.S. dies. This is on account of the fact that the lever comes up over center each time, making it impossible to vary the pressure used in forming the bullet by applying more or less pressure to the handle. In fact, it is actually difficult to make a poor bullet for this reason, unless one is deliberately careless.

The old Pacific frame was made of malleable iron. It now has a more massive frame of cast steel which is recommended for bullet making, necking down large cases, and other operations where considerable pressure is used. This new frame also tends to keep everything in line during the swaging process. Nevertheless, many handloaders still use the lighter type Pacific tool with entire satisfaction. If desired this tool may be reinforced by bolting a steel band to each side of the frame.



Lead cores for bullets are cut from lengths of lead wire in a wire cutter and then seated in bullet jackets by means of an arbor press

In obtaining high velocities the point shape of the bullet is an important factor in its operation. The illustration which shows several representative point shapes as turned out in Huntington's dies places my own bullet at the left and my father's R.C.B.S. bullet next in line. Shooting at all ranges up to 500 yards, I have carefully tested bullets having most of the point shapes formed in the R.C.B.S. dies, and I prefer the one shown on the left to all others. It is my belief that being more rounded at the shoulder and still having almost an 8S point it offers less resistance as it passes through the air. The result is a lower trajectory over the ranges mentioned.

Using flat base bullets having this point shape, I have fired groups of ten shots at 500 yards which measured less than five inches in diameter. These groups will print about four inches higher on the target at this range than similar bullets having the true 8S point fired at the same velocity and having the same sight zero. Bullets having especially long sharp points must be shot at greater velocities than bullets with shorter, more rounded points if the best accuracy is desired. It is not well to go to either extreme in selecting an all-round target and varmint bullet.

It should be pointed out that these bullet-making dies may be ordered to individual specifications in several respects. This refers to point shape, base shape (both of which are illustrated), and also diameter of the finished bullet from .2225 to .228 inch. In regard to proper diameter, I can see little difference in the shooting qualities of bullets having a diameter of from half a thousandth under groove diameter up to a diameter equal to the groove diameter of the rifle being used. However, if I were to order another set of dies, I would specify one making a bullet equal to the groove diameter of my rifle.

In order that the reader may get a correct picture of the results to be expected should he desire to make his own .22 caliber jacketed bullets at home, I have gone to considerable length to learn how satisfactory the method has been in the hands of others. Of a total of twenty-one shooters whom I have known either to own or use a set of the R.C.B.S. dies, not a single one reports unsatisfactory results from their use or from the bullets made in them. Neither have I received a single report that the process was either too complicated or tedious to be entirely practical for everyday use. ♦ ♦ ♦

SHOOTERS, IT'S PERRY TIME!

THOUGH NO CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS were made for the National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, plans for the sixty-third firing of this American shooting classic are complete. These include only the firing of the smallbore and pistol matches, as in '41 and '46. But the National Matches this year will be national matches with a vengeance.

Yes, National Matches with a vengeance. The schedule has been pared down to a minimum of matches. Only a few team and traditional trophy events will be fired which do not figure in the aggregates. Perry will be a tough championship fight.

It has already been demonstrated that the absence of military and National Guard personnel firing in the .30 caliber matches has in no way affected the attendance of small-bore and pistol shooters. The attendance at the '41 National Matches surpassed all previous records in the number of civilian shooters participating. Last year, with many shooters still in uniform, over a thousand civilians fired for championship titles.

This year, because of housing and range limitations, the Nationals are so planned that Perry will be open for one week to rifle shooters and one week to pistol shooters. Matches have been arranged over a four-day period in each week so that all shooters but those who live in the remote corners of the country can travel to and from Camp Perry and fire in the matches while away from home only a week. The rifle matches are scheduled from August fourth to ninth; the pistol matches will be fired from August eleventh to fifteenth.

Advance entries will be required. Make them on the entry blank which accompanies the National Match Program. (A copy will be mailed on request to NRA headquarters.) Entries must be made to the NRA before July seventeenth. If the number of competitors who can be accommodated (700 rifle shooters, 650 pistoleers) has not been met by that date, post entries will be accepted. But do not rely upon post entries being accepted. Fill out that blank and send it in now.

The Camp Registration Office will open for riflemen to sign into camp at 8 A. M. Monday, August fourth. Pistol shooters will register after 8 A. M. Monday, August eleventh. No quarters will be available before these dates.

Quarters will be assigned at the Registration Office. They will be either barracks or "huts." Women competitors will be assigned several barracks and will live under squad-room conditions. Junior competitors under sixteen years of age will not be allowed quarters in camp. There will be no Squaw or Trailer camp.

Bedding will be issued each competitor, so there is no need of lugging any from home. A twenty-dollar deposit will be required before bedding is issued but will be returned when the bedding is turned in—minus a two-dollar laundry charge.

A cafeteria-style competitors' mess will be operated in the Central Mess Hall throughout the matches. Meals will cost approximately two dollars and fifty cents per day. The first meal served will be breakfast on Monday, August fourth. Breakfast and noon dinner will be served Saturday, August ninth, but supper will not be served. No meals will be served Sunday, August tenth. Meals for pistol competitors will commence with breakfast, Monday, August eleventh.

At the NRA Registration Office a competitor will establish his classification, show his NRA membership card (or pay additional entry fees), and pick up his squadding tickets. Competitors will compete in only three classes this year: Master, Expert, and Sharpshooter. Persons holding classification cards in the Marksman and Marksman First Class will shoot in the Sharpshooter Class. Anyone not holding either a permanent or a temporary classification card will be classed Expert for the duration of the matches.

No .22 or .38 caliber arms and ammunition will be available for issue to competitors. However, in the National Trophy Individual and Team Matches only, .45 caliber ammo will be issued to competitors. Issue ammunition *must* be fired in these events.

The matches which constitute the championship aggregates are scheduled:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

6. Open 50-yard Match—Metallic Sights
7. Open 100-yard Match—Metallic Sights
8. U. S. Trophy Match (Dewar Course)—Metallic Sights
58. Open .22 Caliber 50-yard Slow Fire Match
59. Open .22 Caliber Timed Fire Match
60. Open .22 Caliber Rapid Fire Match
61. Walker Trophy Match (.22 National Match Course)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

10. Austin Trophy Match (50 Meters)—Metallic Sights
11. Remington Trophy Match (50 Meters)—Any Sights
62. Open Center Fire 50-yard Slow Fire Match
63. Open Center Fire Timed Fire Match
64. Open Center Fire Rapid Fire Match
65. *Clark Trophy Match (C.F. National Match Course)

*The McGinley Trophy will be awarded the high scoring police officer in this match.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

14. Open 50-yard Match—Any Sights
15. Open 100-yard Match—Any Sights
16. Western Trophy Match (Dewar Course)—Any Sights
68. Open .45 Caliber 50-yard Slow Fire Match
69. Open .45 Caliber Timed Fire Match
70. Open .45 Caliber Rapid Fire Match
71. Orton Trophy Match (.45 National Match Course)

A RIFLE FOR HUNTING SMALL GAME:

THE .25-20 REPEATER

By COL. VERNON E. MEGEE

FOR SOME YEARS NOW the pages of sporting journals have extolled the virtues of this or that super-duper wildcat small-bore cartridge, and the necessarily expensive custombuilt rifles required to digest such exotic fodder. This is, perhaps, as it should be; it certainly makes for exciting reading among the gun nuts and fosters comprehension of exterior ballistics. It also serves to keep the varmints in check. However, we must bear in mind that such emphasis on expensive perfection is apt to discourage the tyro rifleman who may from such reading gain the impression that nothing short of minute-of-angle accuracy and straightedge trajectory is worthy of the most remote consideration. Since the initial outlay for such an outfit is usually prohibitive to younger shooters, and the requisite skill to use it is difficult of attainment, the aspirant is likely to dismiss the subject of rifle shooting as an unrealizable dream—and end up as a dub golfer!

In the wild rush to keep strictly up to date on varmint rifles we are prone to overlook the proved standard combinations which have served some of us older shooters so well, yet which may be practically unknown to the youngster. For the benefit of such newcomers to the rifle fraternity I propose to resurrect a prime favorite of some fifty years' standing—the .25-20 repeater.

The .25-20 was originally a black powder cartridge, and with such loading required frequent cleaning and the use of fresh ammunition to show consistent accuracy, due to the small bore diameter. Later smokeless powder loadings with mercuric primers caused very rapid erosion of the barrel immediately forward of the chamber, with consequent loss of accuracy after a few hundred rounds. Despite these disadvantages—happily no longer existent with modern ammunition—the cartridge was very popular for small game and varmint shooting and was widely used. Two loadings were available: The standard load firing the 86 grain lead bullet at about 1400 foot-seconds muzzle velocity and, later, the high velocity smokeless load which fired a jacketed bullet of the same weight at around 1700 feet.

Such was the cartridge when I first knew it thirty years ago. It was good then, insofar as practical accuracy, trajectory, and killing power were concerned; it is even better today since the

advent of noncorrosive primers, improved smokeless powders, and lighter bullets of higher velocity.

My first rifle for this cartridge was a Model 27 Marlin slide-action repeater of rather dubious age and condition. For it I traded a Remington Model 12A, .22 caliber, which I had literally worn out by indiscriminate shooting of Shorts, Longs, and what have you, since all was grist that came to a boy's shooting mill in those days.

The Marlin had lost the keen edge of its accuracy, but it would still outshoot any small game rifle in my neighborhood, including certain much touted Winchester .32-20's which up until then had ruled the local shoots. This was my first real rifle. From it I learned a great deal; but never again or since have I considered the .22 rim fire as a serious hunting arm.

Since then I have hunted with the .25-20 caliber over much of the United States and tropical America. I have tried the Winchesters, the Remington slide action, and the Savage bolt action with scope, but my first love remains the Marlin Model 27. My original rifle of this make was replaced by a new one some twenty years ago. It, too, eventually lost its gilt-edge accuracy with lead bullets due to throat erosion, but continued to shoot well with jacketed bullets. I have fired literally thousands of rounds through this little rifle at small game and varmints, up to and including coyotes, foxes, monkeys, cats, turkeys, guinea fowl, iguanas, and the smaller alligators. It has on occasion accounted for the small tropical deer, although I do not recommend it for that purpose.

On any and all of these animals and large birds, I have found the .25-20 most effective. I have had no quarrel with its killing power, nor with its accuracy, nor with its reliability of functioning. The report is sufficiently mild to be acceptable in settled communities, yet its spiteful crack is that of a rifle—not a toy. It carries easily on an all-day trail and it handles like a flash for running snap shots. It is in truth what has been aptly referred to as a "friendly little rifle."

Having established the historical background, so to speak, let us turn now to specific discussion of the merits of this cartridge as currently loaded, and consideration of available rifles chambered for it.

First is the matter of expense. A standard factory rifle for this cartridge cost, before the war when they were available, between twenty-five and forty dollars, depending on the sights furnished. Compare this with the cost of a scope-sighted Hornet at $100 and up, or with the custombuilt job for the

wildcat creation at—mostly up. Factory cartridges for the .25-20 are widely distributed at about three dollars and fifty cents per hundred, and are easily and cheaply reloaded. The same may be said for the Hornet and the .218 Bee. But what about the superduper specials?

As for accuracy, the .25-20 in a weight of about six to seven pounds, fitted with hunting aperture sights, will shoot into the same size circle at fifty yards as will the nine-pound scope-sighted Hornet at 100. There is your *practical* accuracy—the ability to consistently behead a squirrel at fifty yards. At 100 yards, I have shot groups that measured slightly over two inches, using the scope-sighted Savage, and have done almost as well using the Lyman-sighted Marlin. The standard loading is slightly more accurate than the high-speed cartridge, but scarcely noticeable in the field. Characteristic groups with either loading will show seven or eight shots well centered, with two or three flyers enlarging the pattern to around three inches. Thus, 80 per cent of the shots fired may be expected to strike a crow at 100 yards, or a large hawk at 150, if the shooter does his part. I have often killed the larger birds at longer ranges, attributing misses to errors in range estimation rather than to inaccuracy.

The .25-20 will consistently outshoot .22 rimfire hunting rifles of similar weight within their effective range, which I consider as something less than 100 yards. At longer ranges there is no comparison—particularly if there be any wind. It will also shoot along with the lesser breed of Hornets and Bees in the same weight class, although outclassed by the heavier scope-sighted varminters.

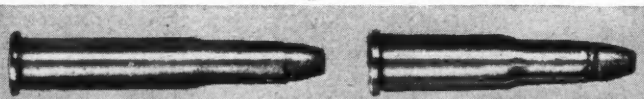
The .25-20 also shoots consistently where it looks, so long as only one type of cartridge is used. If you mix standard and high-speed loads, the results will be most unflattering—two distinct points of impact which may be six or eight inches apart at 100 yards. Sight the rifle in for one or the other cartridge, depending upon the type of shooting you have, and stick to that combination. Once sighted in for a given cartridge the rifle may be expected to maintain its center of impact day in and day out, with cold clean barrel or warm fouled one. This dependable trait, I might add, is more pronounced with the standard loading; the high-speed load is almost in the *prima donna* class, susceptible on occasion to fits of temperament when used in light-barreled tubular magazine rifles. Incidentally, the practical hunting accuracy of any rifle is determined by consideration of the average mean radius of its group in connection with uniform center of impact, and by this standard the .25-20 qualifies very well indeed.

For shooting in wooded country I have always used the standard cartridge, shifting to the high-speed loading for Western, open-country shooting at jack rabbits and coyotes. I have not found much use for the old high velocity load with 86 grain bullet since the 60 grain high-speed cartridge became available. The former is unnecessarily powerful for small game at short range, also being excelled by the faster, harder hitting 60 grain load for longer ranges.

The trajectory of the standard cartridge is too curved to permit sure hits on small marks at unknown ranges beyond 100 yards, although if you know your rifle well you can, by judicious holding over, often pull off spectacular shots at much longer ranges. This is, however, primarily a woods cartridge. For squirrel shooting it may be sighted to hit point of aim at sixty yards, and with this setting the bullet will not rise or fall more than an inch up to seventy-five yards or so. Sighted in at 100 yards, as it should be for woodchucks, turkeys, and like game, the trajectory rises to three inches at fifty yards and falls about four inches at 125 yards. At 150 yards the bullet will drop eight inches below point of aim.

If the reader knows his ballistics, it will now be apparent that the trajectory of the .25-20 *standard* load is practically identical with that of the .22 Long Rifle *high-speed* cartridge. This may be proven by field tests over the 200 yard range. Although the .22 varies somewhat with different brands of ammunition, and with the air temperature on the range, the average trajectory coincides very closely with that of the .25-20 for all ranges up to about 200 yards; beyond that range the heavier bullets of the latter hold up better.

This is a significant factor for the small-game shooter who uses both rifles; he will have but one set of values to learn. It also makes available to the .25-20 shooter the wealth of data published on the .22 high-speed. *(Continued on page 32)*



The .25-20 Winchester cartridge, sometimes referred to as the .25-20 "repeater," stems from the .25-20 single-shot cartridge which was made obsolete during the past year. The repeater cartridge is shorter than its predecessor and has a sharper shoulder. The two cartridges, therefore, are not interchangeable.

The .25-20 was developed for the early Winchester lever-action repeating rifles. Marlin also chambered early lever actions and trombone actions for this cartridge. Just previous to World War II Winchester was turning out the Model 65 lever action for the .25-20 but its manufacture has been discontinued. Savage is producing a utility rifle having a .25-20 barrel which is interchangeable, on the same action, with a shotgun barrel.

Every year many a deer is shot, and others shot at, with the .25-20. Providing the .25-20 is used at close range by a shooter who knows where to place his shots, and can place them accurately, it will bring down deer. But in the hands of the average hunter the .25-20 rifle is not adequate for deer. On small game the .25-20 is very effective but it lacks the flat trajectory for long-range shooting that is found in some modern varmint cartridges.

The low velocity of the .25-20 is not the only reason for its lack of popularity; it carries the stigma of inaccuracy. In this respect the cartridge is the victim of circumstances. The rifles chambered for it have not been the super-accurate type adapted to the technique of the present-day varmint shooter. A cartridge can't produce accuracy superior to the capabilities of the rifle from which it is fired. There is no reason why this cartridge, carefully loaded by the factory or handloader, should not give fine accuracy in a well-made, properly bedded, bolt-action or single-shot lever-action rifle. But because of the strikes against it, justified or not, the .25-20 is probably doomed to obsolescence in a few years.

HERE'S WHAT YOU WANT

A SUMMARY OF OPINIONS VOICED BY RIFLE AND PISTOL SHOOTERS ABOUT OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT COMPETITION

LIKE THE MAN WITH AN ACE-HIGH STRAIGHT, our competitive rifle and pistol shooters seem pretty much willing to stand pat on what they've got. That is essentially what is shown by tabulated results of a questionnaire sent to each classified shooter on NRA records last winter. The poll was taken to provide a basis for studies by two special committees which met in Washington and made initial recommendations to the Executive Committee. Purpose: To see if the present crop of small-bore and pistol shooters want to change their games a bit.

Serving as a supplementary fact-finding medium for the two eleven-man committees, members of which had individually quizzed shooters throughout the country, the poll disclosed that most present-day tournament competitors do not know from first-hand experience the problems of the registered match official or worker. Only 41 per cent of the small-bore shooters claimed to have ever worked in any capacity at an NRA event . . . and only 33 per cent of the pistolmen had worked. But they all had competitive experience, and the shooting know-how of the more than 5,000 voters greatly influenced the tone of committee recommendations. And, surprising to some was the "Stay-As-Sweet-As-You-Are" attitude expressed by competitors of all classifications.

The riflemen, answering thirteen questions which specifically affected courses of fire, classification, or prize awards, voted in favor of changes on only four of the subjects. They advocated more "position" matches outdoors, some Rapid Fire events, the segregation of "professional" shooters into a separate classification, and the awarding of more merchandise prizes by tournament sponsors. The pistol shooters turned thumbs down on all suggested changes except for more merchandise awards.

So, if you want to know how you voted, collectively, here is the analysis:

What about moving targets and breakable targets to add variety, spectator interest, practical shooting value and better distribution of scores? Would they be worth the additional cost?

NO . . . said the majority, at least not at the expense of existing courses of fire. Statistically, only 22 per cent of the small-bore ballots said "Yes"; 36 per cent of the pistolmen wanted the variety affairs which the Pistol Committee then recommended as optional events.

What about the present classification system? Should we cut or raise the number of classes? Should a shooter be moved into the next higher classification as soon as he finishes in first place some predetermined number of times in his class? Should a competitor be "frozen" in his highest classification? Should a system of handicapping be adopted (if workable) in place of the present system of classification? Are any of those proposed changes appealing?

NO . . . an overwhelming majority (66 per cent of the small-bore ballots; 70 per cent of pistol ballots) voted that the present *number* of classifications was "About Right."

Fifty-nine per cent of the riflemen and 58 per cent of the pistolmen said a shooter should *not* be moved up on the basis of class wins, but rather on average only.

Sixty-one per cent of the small-bore folk and 68 per cent of the handgun artists said a competitor should drop back when his average tumbles. (The NRA Executive Committee ruled that each such case is subject to its review and approval.)

And only 24 per cent of the rifle ballots and 30 per cent of the pistol ballots indicated a preference for handicapping over the present system of classification.

(An NRA study into classification *averages*, based on 1946 scores, revealed the need for readjustment of class limits for both small-bore and pistol. The small-bore survey showed: An overly large Master Class making it practically impossible for low Masters to win prizes; an overly large Sharpshooter Class (38.1 per cent of all shooters); and a Marksman Class too small (5.8 per cent) to afford satisfactory competition. The NRA Executive Committee readjusted class average limits, reducing the Master Class to approximately 4.5 per cent of the total number of shooters and more equitably distributing the rest in the five other classes.

(The pistol survey revealed similar inequities in class distribution. Committee action recommended readjustment in class average limits, decreasing the size of the Master Class to about 6.4 per cent and equalizing the strength of the other classes.)

What about cash prize awards at registered tournaments? Should they be allowed and, if so, should each shooting classification have its own money pool to prevent competitors in the higher classifications from monopolizing cash prizes at the expense of less-skilled shooters?

YES . . . shouted 62 per cent of the riflemen and 56 per cent of the pistolmen in answer to the first question, provided entry in the cash prize pool is optional to the shooter. And there was an even 55 per cent who favored the separate cash prize schedule for each classification.

Do you think that good merchandise awards, properly engraved, should be substituted as match prizes for the present awards of medals and trophies?

YES . . . but it was close. With 11 per cent abstaining, 48 per cent of the combined rifle and pistol ballots went down as favoring merchandise awards as against 41 per cent who wanted to see medals and trophies continued as the standard award of present-day shooting matches.

Riflemen, should there be more "position" matches outdoors at 50 yards or 50 meters for variety and to save some of the time involved in framing 100-yard targets?

YES . . . said 54 per cent of the small-bore balloters. No, said 38 per cent confirmed

belly shooters who want to stick to prone position exclusively.

Pistolmen, the Timed Fire course has been described as too easy in comparison with other pistol courses. This might be rectified by substituting a different range or a different target than that now in use. Do you think it should be changed?

NO . . . voted 71 per cent of the handgunners as against 25 per cent who thought that either a different range or different target might improve things.

Riflemen, do you think that some form of Rapid Fire course for the small-bore rifle should be developed for our registered tournament programs to add variety?

YES . . . but this one was close. With 11 per cent expressing no opinion, 47 per cent went on record in favor of some Rapid Fire competition. Steadfastly holding out for continuance of the present-day Slow Fire precision game were 42 percent of the small-bore voters.

Pistolmen, what is your opinion of present indoor pistol targets? Do you think they are too difficult or too easy? Do you think the size of the aiming bull is too great or too small? Do you think they should be changed at all?

NO . . . leave them as they are voted the vast majority. Actualy, 74 per cent of the handgunners thought the indoor targets were a good test. Seven per cent called them too difficult, only 2 per cent said "Too Hard." The size of the aiming bull agrees with 64 per cent while 20 per cent were divided equally between "Too Small" and "Too Large."

Riflemen, suppose present outdoor targets were changed to make the present X-ring a "10" and the width of the scoring rings were reduced so as to eliminate many ties, thereby making possible shorter courses of fire, more matches per day, less waiting time between relays. Would such a change be desirable to you?

NO . . . although the "No X-ring" supporters showed surprising strength. Statistically, it was 53 per cent in favor of leaving targets as they are now, with 42 per cent advocating that the change be considered.

Pistolmen, there has been some talk of making a sharp division between Police, Service, and Civilian shooters. Do you think it necessary to have a separate classification for any of those groups to minimize any "advantage?"

NO . . . a landslide vote of 75 per cent favored shooting it out on an equal basis. Only 17 per cent favored a separate classification for police marksmen; only 13 per cent saw servicemen as a separate class.

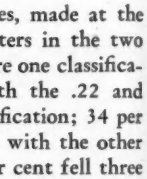
Riflemen, what about you? Do you think that a separate classification should be added for "professional" shooters—that is, trade representatives?

YES . . . thought 56 per cent of the small-bore balloters, "professionals" should be segregated in competition. Willing to shoot along against the field was a hardy 32 per cent.

Pistolmen, under the present policy a shooter has a separate classification based on .45 caliber pistol scores. Is this necessary? Would you be willing to shoot the large caliber gun on the basis of your .22 caliber and center-fire average?

NO . . . continue the present policy of separate classification for the .45's was the booming answer of 69 per cent of the voters. Only 22 per cent figured there wasn't enough difference to make a separate classification necessary.

(An NRA analysis of 1946 handgun averages, made at the same time, compared the classifications of shooters in the two groups. The analysis showed that 5 per cent were one classification higher with the .45 caliber gun than with the .22 and center-fire guns; 39 per cent had the same classification; 34 per cent dropped a notch with the .45 as compared with the other two arms; 17 per cent dropped two classes; 4 per cent fell three classes; and 1 per cent dropped a full four classes on the basis of their .45 average. Thus, the analysis shows, 78 per cent of the handgunners' .45 caliber averages are within one classification of their average with the .22 and center-fire combination.)



Riflemen, some tournament sponsors have devised a system of placing all targets on display immediately after scoring and posting to reduce the number of challenges by competitors and, consequently to speed up the posting of official bulletins. Would you like to see this done at all small-bore tournaments?

YES . . . said 55 per cent who think it would help a lot. Twenty per cent didn't think so, while a big 25 per cent abstained.

Do you like team competition in addition to your individual firing? Should a greater effort be made to encourage interclub team matches as a part of the registered tournament programs?

YES . . . (tournament sponsors please note) and the results were pretty decisive. Fifty-six per cent of the small-bore balloters favored more team matches as against 34 per cent who want to concentrate on individual shooting.

Among the handgunners, it was 66 per cent in favor of more team competition at tournament, with 24 per cent in favor of doing their winning and losing solo. ◆ ◆ ◆

SKEET SHOOTING ASSOCIATION REORGANIZED

The once-dormant National Skeet Shooting Association has been reorganized and incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware as a nonprofit association for the promotion of skeet shooting. This reorganization was accomplished by the National Skeet Committee of the old NSSA with the aid of the National Rifle Association. The NSSA is operating at NRA Headquarters under a temporary management contract which places the NRA Staff and facilities at its disposal. The officers of the NSSA, elected in January, 1947, are: President, John A. LaFore, Jr.; Vice President, Alex H. Kerr; Secretary-Treasurer, C. B. Lister; Manager, Colonel E. F. Sloan.

LATHE TURNED CASES

By JAC WELLER

MOST OF US HAVE AT ONE TIME or another come into possession of a rifle or pistol for which no ammunition was available. Every collector has at least one or two of these pieces that he would like to shoot. We all feel more kindly to an arm in our rack if we have actually fired it a few times, even though we may never take it into the field.

Well, why not make some ammunition? This article deals with the relatively simple task of providing a few cartridge cases for each weapon. Surprisingly little equipment other than a bench lathe is required.

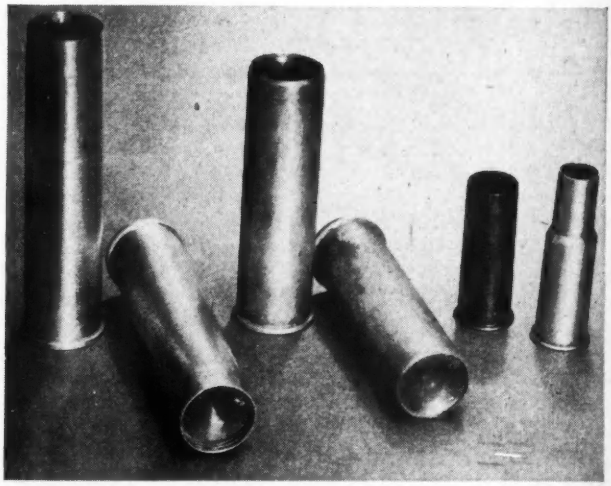
As we all know, the drawing of a standard brass cartridge case has now reached such a state of perfection that many thousands of them are turned out by complicated machinery in an hour's time. Several drawings in exact dies on heavy presses as well as heat-treatment and machining operations are required. For our purposes, we can turn out on a bench lathe, by a much greater expenditure of time, a few cases which will be just as effective in our otherwise silent guns.

The working of the drawn case considerably increases the strength of the brass, though somewhat at the expense of ductility. The turned case, however, if correctly designed and fabricated, has a far greater amount of metal at the important stress points and it is made to close tolerances for the chamber in which it will actually be fired. This means that an entirely safe and almost indestructible case is produced; the turned case will be suitable for any load the gun will stand.

It must be emphasized at the outset that, if one's time is valued, the making of these cases on a bench lathe is extremely costly. However, the feeling of pride in having produced ammunition for a pet rifle that would have otherwise remained unfired is worth that time. Besides, all of us who have a bench lathe cannot spend more pleasurable time than working with it. Except in a rare instance where someone contemplates hunting at a considerable distance from home, half a dozen cases will be sufficient. Many of the old-timers did much of their remarkable match shooting with only one case. Harry Pope is said to have loaded and fired one turned case over 30,000 times. However, it must be pointed out that, whereas the necessary equipment consists mainly of a bench lathe, brass or aluminum stock, and suitable measuring devices, there is a considerable degree of skill and experience necessary to actually work to the close tolerances which will give the best results in turned cases.

Among the many rifles for which cases are almost unobtainable at the present time are the old .50-70 and many Ballard and Sharps cartridges, such as the .40-72 and the .45-65. Those of us who spend considerable time with foreign arms will add from the same period the .577 Snider and .577-.450 Martini, as well as the 11 mm. Beaumont and the 11 mm. Gras, among many others. Sometimes, after considerable effort, a few of these cartridge cases may be obtained from a dealer as collector's items; however, reloading them is always unsatisfactory due to the fact that they have frequently been fired with mercuric priming. Further, these cartridges were originally not well made. Many had soldered heads which have always been unsafe.

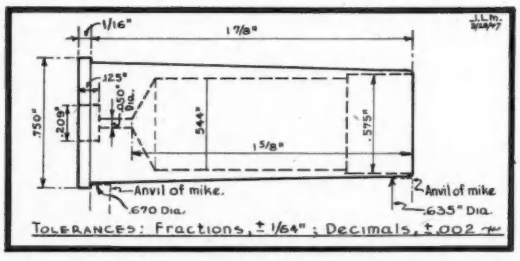
A glance at the diagrams will show that the turned cases have



Four shotgun and two rifle cases turned by the author. The two reclining shotgun loads are plugged with about three-eighths inch of mineral wax

a much smaller volume than the original drawn cases. Almost without exception, this reduction in volume is an advantage rather than a disadvantage. The heavier case provides greater strength. The smaller chamber volume allows the use of an appropriate quantity of smokeless powder, which is not only more efficient ballistically but also much cleaner, without increasing the pressure over that which the old guns will stand. But don't, under any circumstances, load one of the IMR powders into a cartridge designed for one of the old black-powder rifles. However, a reasonable charge of Sharpshooter or similar moderately powerful smokeless powder will give ballistics in these turned cases superior to the original black-powder loading, and with complete safety.

By no means are all of the guns for which we are unable to obtain modern cases old or obsolete. For instance, I recently obtained two very interesting specimens of the very finest workmanship for which no ammunition is available in this country. One of them is a superb



As seen from this diagram of a .577 Snider Enfield, a turned case has smaller powder capacity and greater strength than original

three-barrel gun with Krupp steel barrels and of extremely light weight. The side-by-side barrels are chambered for standard 16 bore shotgun shells; the third barrel which is underneath is a moderate-power German rifle cartridge for which no ammunition is available now or will be for perhaps several years. The second weapon is a single-shot rifle of superb workmanship taking a nonstandard 8 mm. cartridge which is also unobtainable in this country. Half a dozen cases for each of these rifles will change them from ornaments to serviceable field weapons, even though these handloads cannot be quite so powerful as might be desired.

Since metallic shotgun cases cannot be crimped to keep the wad in place, shallow threads are cut inside the neck, as shown in this diagram of a Lefever 8 bore turned case

Those who indulge in crow shooting with a scattergun are often plagued by the exasperating ability of these creatures to stay just out of range of the common shotgun. They are continually trying to get some weapon that will reach out a little farther and still have a good pattern. Even the 10 bore magnum is not perhaps the ultimate answer for those of us who are willing to carry an even greater weight around our own fields. Several years ago, I was able to obtain an 8 bore Lefever full-choke double which weighs a trifle under sixteen pounds. Paper cases were then available and even factory-loaded ammunition; however, in these unusual bores even the paper cases are entirely unsatisfactory and the factory-loaded ammunition very weak. The chamber diameter of this gun was about .032 inch over the diameter of the paper cases before being fired; when fired these cases frequently split and could not be reloaded. Turned aluminum cases for this weapon and also for a much lighter Webley double 8 bore have not only solved the problem of satisfactory ammunition but also very considerably improved my crow hunting. Ammunition loaded into aluminum cases has improved the pattern obtained because of certain features to be explained later.

Having decided upon the gun for which you want ammunition, you should first make an accurate drawing or sketch, showing in detail exactly what you wish to make. Working directly from a sulphur cast is never quite satisfactory and will lead to disappointment. The cast is necessary, however, in order to make up the sketch.

There are several compounds on the market which are supposed to give superior chamber casts; however, I merely fill an old tea kettle half full of sulphur and then add about a cup of graphite to it. The mixture is heated while covered on an electric hot plate in the shop. If your shop is in your home rather than in the barn, do this some afternoon when the wife is out. Even though covered, the sulphur is likely to give off fumes not at all pleasant. After appropriately plugging the bore just in front of the chamber, the sulphur should be poured into the chamber so as to considerably protrude above it. From time to time during the cooling process, sulphur must be added from the kettle to the cast if the rim section is to be full and strong. Once a good cast is obtained, showing perfect detail around the rim, it may be set aside for later exact measurements in making a working sketch. Do not be discouraged if the first two or three casts are bad as there is considerable knack in doing this apparently simple task. These casts are very close to being the actual size of the chamber of your gun. You cannot use even .001-inch tolerance above the cast size without getting into difficulty chambering the cartridges after they are made. As a matter of fact, I use the cast size as the *maximum* and allow myself .003 inch minus tolerance on all outside diameter measurements and .010 inch minus on length measurements. From the cast you can get all exterior dimensions, including both the thickness of the rim and the over-all length of the finished case.

The most important points in machining these cases are: First, close tolerance work in the primer pocket and, second, the inside boring of the case itself. In the two drawings accompanying this article, primer pocket dimensions are shown and also the tolerances to which they should be held for satisfactory service. The boring of the main portion of the inside of a rifle cartridge case should be uniform in all of the cases produced. This inside diameter is from a few thousandths to $\frac{1}{32}$ inch under bore diameter, depending mainly upon what size reamer you happen to have on hand. I use two drills, the last from .020 inch to .048 inch under the reamer to be used. If a reamer is not available, a third drill of appropriate size may be used, or the whole case may be bored out with a boring tool. Don't hurry this job, for a small lathe can't hog out a lot of metal and leave any kind of finish.

We now have the problem of counterboring the rifle cartridge case in order to seat the bullets. In designing these cases, I usually determine the depth to which the bullets should be seated and then bore out the case to this depth, and to a diameter .005 under that of the bullet to be used. Chamfer the inside of the case slightly so that the bullets will be a snug press fit into the case. This arrangement will make unnecessary the crimping of the case; however, if a crimp is desired, chamfer the outer edge of the mouth of the case, also, for perhaps the last $\frac{1}{32}$ inch. If the cases are to be crimped, the counterbore should be of such a depth that this crimp will engrave a groove in the bullet.

In practice, a case is turned completely in all outside dimensions from a solid piece of stock and then finished inside as mentioned above, save that half an inch of stock is left protruding to the rear of the rim by which it is held in the chuck. The case is then cut off, leaving the rim about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch too wide. Several cases may be completed to this point. When ready to proceed further, a soft-steel spud arbor is made which will hold the cases on their inside diameter. If by chance the spud has been turned a trifle undersized, a piece of paper may be wrapped around it. This will not in any way disturb the accuracy of the machining operations that follow on the head of the case.

The rim is now faced to its proper thickness and the primer pocket and touchhole finished. The operation of finishing a

primer pocket is slow and tedious if attempted on a bench lathe without a tailstock turret. When finishing cases in any quantity, I usually use several drills of appropriate sizes with bushings which prevent their entering the case too far. These drills should be floated in a small chuck held by hand against the tailstock center. The last drill should be form ground to leave a flat-bottomed hole. A reamer should then be used to take out the last .004 inch. However, this can be done with a drill. You can with a little practice hold within a tolerance of .0005 inch.

When first attempting this job, by all means make only one case and fire it several times before you make your permanent supply, as in almost every instance some slight change will be desirable. The most usual change is in respect to the outside diameter of the end of the case around the counterbore where the bullet fits. If this diameter is slightly undersized, the case will expand on firing so that a second bullet may not be a snug fit in the counterbored mouth of the case.

All commercial types of brass stock work very nicely for rifle cases. Cases may also be made of aluminum. Shotgun cases are more easily made than rifle cases save that the inside diameter should be held closer to bore diameter. The over-all tolerances can be increased slightly and the primer pocket, when using battery cups, need not be so fine a machining operation. Also, the actual size being larger, they are easier to work. I prefer aluminum for shotgun cases as they are lighter when loaded.

In making shotgun cases, leave enough metal in the head of the case so that only three felt wads are needed between the powder and shot to have the shot about one-half inch below the mouth of the case. My first efforts with the 8 bore cases required seven wads even with the maximum charge of 52 grains of Hercules Red Dot and two and five-eighth ounces of shot. By leaving slightly over one and one-quarter inch of metal at the base of the case, I was able to reduce the wads to three, which is approximately correct. In shotgun cases, the turned case fills the chamber competely. The inside diameter of the case should be very close to bore diameter. With this case, therefore, we get away completely from all the many problems so frequently discussed in regard to a gap between paper cases and conical sections between the chamber diameter and the bore diameter. The gap at the end of the case need not be more than a $\frac{1}{32}$ inch long, as the case itself extends right into the cone in front of the chamber proper. The shot charge and wads are entirely undisturbed as they pass from the shell to the bore.

There is one problem in connection with the shotgun case which one does not have in dealing with rifle cases. The shot must be kept tight in the case while carrying it about. A bullet which is pressed tightly into the mouth of a rifle case will stay put without trouble. However, a charge of shot with only an overshot wad won't stay at all. A metal case cannot be satisfactorily crimped so as to hold the charge in place, even if several cardboard wads of the proper size are used. I first tried pouring three-eighths inch of mineral wax into the case over the shot wad. This expedient did not work satisfactorily. After considerable experimenting, I hit upon a scheme that works perfectly. Shallow threads are placed in the mouth of the case to hold the wax rigidly in place. For any given bore size, a tap of slightly above this size is cylindrically ground to from .006 to .008 inch over bore diameter. A further refinement is to grind the whole tap to this size and then grind the first half of the tap down to exactly bore diameter so as to form a pilot which may be fitted into the mouth of the case to perfectly align the threads with the axis of the case. This tap, which has truncated threads, is then turned by hand into each case for a depth of perhaps three-quarters of an inch, cutting fairly wide but shallow threads.

These cases are reloaded in exactly the same manner as a paper case save that after the overshot wad is placed in position, approximately three-eighths inch of mineral wax is added over the shot wad. This wax should be just above its melting point; if it is too hot it will flow past the wad and into the shot charge. Shells loaded in this manner will stay tight almost indefinitely and will stand as much rough handling as paper shells. I have noticed absolutely no bad effects in the pattern from the use of this wax, and imagine that it is liquefied almost instantly as the charge starts down the barrel.

In writing the above, I have purposely avoided a detailed description of the operations in making these cases. Anyone having the skill to work to the tolerances necessary in order to do a good job of these cases will have his own method of lathe operation. There is nothing complicated in any of the work. The first case can be made in about six hours' time. After this has been tried out, half a dozen more can be made in a total of less than that. You will have done all your experimenting on the first and will have your tools ready and partially set up. If by any chance you have a tailstock turret on your lathe, the time that is required can be cut by as much as 50 percent.

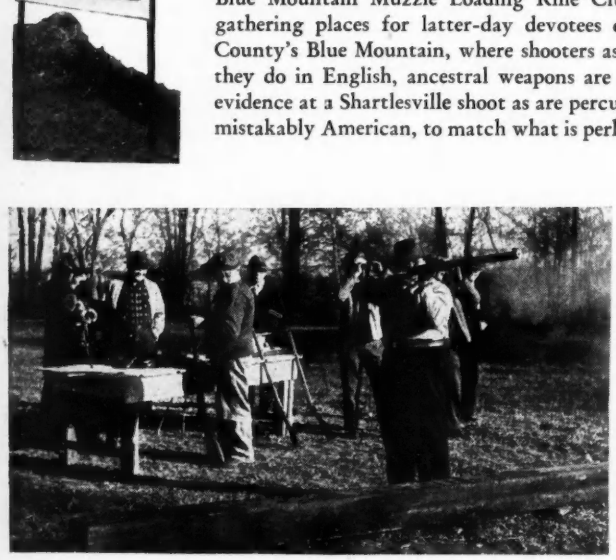
When the cases are complete, the feeling of pride of accomplishment will be well worth the expenditure of time and effort. We may shoot the guns for which we make cases only occasionally; however, we no longer have to look at them as voiceless corpses in our racks. After all, we went to great lengths to give them tongues and teach them how to speak. They're ours. With half a dozen good rounds of ammunition, they can hold their heads up without shame and be a real part of the armory. ♦ ♦ ♦

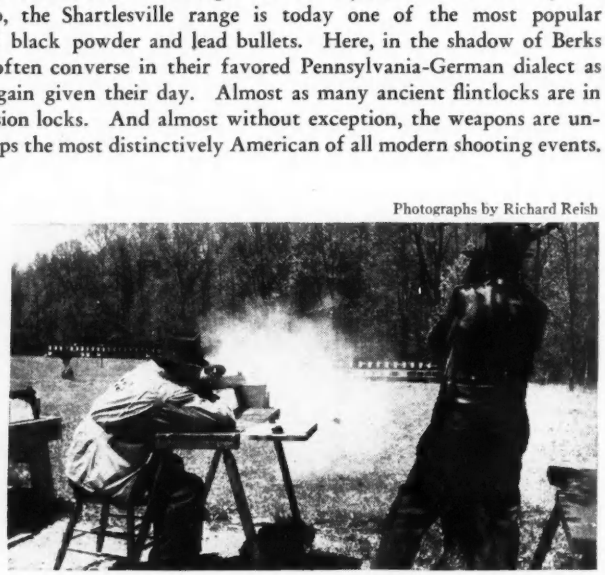
Naw, Ah don't hunt no more . . . th' jug's too heavy in th' mawnin' an' m' haid's too light in th' afternoon!

CHARCOAL AND PIG LEAD

AS FAR BACK AS THE OLDEST RESIDENT can remember, rifle matches have been a tradition in Shartlesville, Pennsylvania. And like so many traditional things that have survived in the heart of this prosperous Pennsylvania-German country, the matches have changed little in the past two hundred years. Black powder is still current at Shartlesville, and loads are rammed down the muzzles of ancestral rifles exactly as they were by the great-grandfathers of these same shooters. Reorganized shortly before the war by the Blue Mountain Muzzle Loading Rifle Club, the Shartlesville range is today one of the most popular gathering places for latter-day devotees of black powder and lead bullets. Here, in the shadow of Berks County's Blue Mountain, where shooters as often converse in their favored Pennsylvania-German dialect as they do in English, ancestral weapons are again given their day. Almost as many ancient flintlocks are in evidence at a Shartlesville shoot as are percussion locks. And almost without exception, the weapons are unmistakably American, to match what is perhaps the most distinctively American of all modern shooting events.

Photographs by Richard Reish

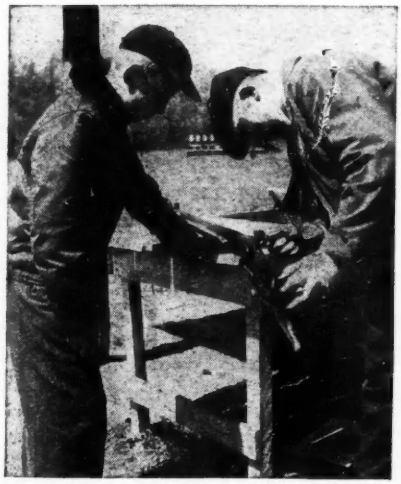




THE OLD GUNS ARE ACCURATE

The rifles used at Shartlesville vary from the fine old creations of Ohio and Pennsylvania gunmakers of the 18th and 19th centuries to specialized muzzle loaders produced within the last few years. One thing that characterizes them all is accuracy. Properly handled, a good muzzle loader will "put them all in one hole" at 50 yards, and stay in the ten ring of the standard target at twice that distance. The outstanding group turned in during the last Shartlesville meet was fired with a flintlock rifle. Five shots at fifty yards went into exactly one-half inch.

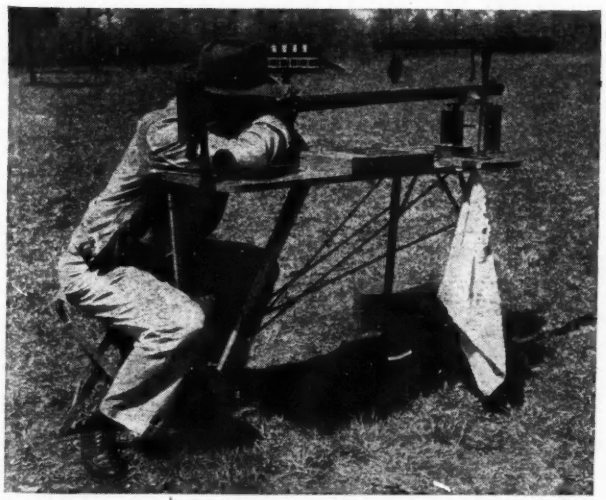
Because guns weigh as much as fifty pounds, they are almost invariably fired from a bench rest. This rifle was made by the famed Horace Warner of Syracuse, N. Y. It shoots a bullet weighing over 800 grains



John Reinhart, Jr., Hamburg, Pa., is youngest active shooter in club. The twelve-year-old does his own loading under the coaching of his father

Club old timers R. B. Hiester (left), cabinet maker, and Phares Brenner, watchmaker, with their flintlocks. Each carved the stock for his own weapon

In early matches, competitors fired at crosses chalked on charred boards. Today, standard NRA 50 and 100 yard targets are used at Shartlesville



William Waite, Jr. came from Glen Cove, Long Island to attend Shartlesville matches. Like many muzzle-gun fans, he carries own bench rest to matches

Sylvester Schaeffer, Bernville, Pa., cleans his percussion match rifle between shots. Without cleaning, black powder fouling would ruin accuracy

HUSBAND-AND-WIFE TEAM

Typical of the thousands who are trying the muzzle loaders as a hobby are Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Hirtle of Bath, Pennsylvania. Professionally a busy dentist, Hirtle in his spare time is an avid muzzle loader fan, and serves as president of the Blue Mountain Club. In a basement shop he rebuilds his own guns, re-rifles, and has even made a complete flintlock target rifle. His wife is as enthusiastic about the sport as he, and they are familiar figures at muzzle loader competition. Occasionally, as at Cos Cob, Connecticut last year, where she won the Eastern Flintlock Championship, tiny (100-pound) Sue Hirtle manages to beat the men at their own game.

These pictures show method used by Mrs. Hirtle in loading her 15-pound flintlock rifle. First, 90-grain charge of black powder is poured down bore

Accuracy is obtained by use of cloth "patch," which makes ball rotate in the rifling as it is fired. The patch must be moistened with saliva

After ball has been seated in muzzle of gun, encased in its cloth patch, excess is cut off. Most muzzle loaders use old-fashioned straight razor

After trimming patch, ball is seated on powder charge with long wooden ramrod. Then pan of lock must be primed with fine-grained powder

Smoke cloud from priming almost obscures Mrs. Hirtle as she fires flintlock in 50-yard match. Despite appearance, recoil is not excessive

Left: At home, Doctor Hirtle spends most of his free time tinkering with his rifles or talking shooting. Here, in his basement workshop, he resets the flint in his new rifle

Above: Hirtles often shoot as a team. In this photograph, Mrs. Hirtle is firing the big flintlock built by her husband. Note the modern sights and special bench-rest stock. ◆ ◆ ◆

BULLET VELOCITY and Killing Power

By JOHN TAYLOR

THE PRIMARY OBJECT OF STEPPING UP the velocity of sporting rifles is undoubtedly to flatten the trajectory and thereby eliminate the bugbear of estimating the range. But with the increase in striking velocity, that is, the actual velocity of the bullet at the moment of impact, a new factor is apparent. It is seen that these high-velocity bullets possess a peculiar property of "shock" which seems to paralyze the animal's entire nervous system; but to obtain this effect the striking velocity has to be not less than about 2,400 feet per second at the moment of impact. In other words, it requires a rifle with a muzzle velocity of not less than 2,500 foot-seconds; what is now referred to as a "magnum."

It was the .280 Ross, somewhere around 1910, if I remember rightly, which revolutionized our ideas as to the requirements of a sporting rifle, and with which this peculiar killing property was first noticed. There was a rush to buy a Ross rifle; but men overlooked the fact that the little, light, 140 grain expanding bullet would disintegrate all too readily if it happened to hit a bone. On all but the smallest animals it thereby dissipated its killing power before it reached a vital point. After one or two men were killed by lions which their .280's failed to stop, it was discarded other than for the pot. But it served its purpose in showing us the enormous advantages of a high striking velocity, provided the bullet was heavy enough to hold together.

But I do not think the reasons for this poleaxing effect have ever been explained. Some years ago an intensely interesting discussion on this question ran through the pages of the British *Game & Gun*, in which I took a small part. We even persuaded surgeons and medicos to give us their views, but finished up not much wiser than when we started. Nevertheless, a great deal of interesting matter was brought to light from a considerable variety of hunters and sportsmen and their varied experiences.

It was shown that if an animal was hit by a bullet of sufficient weight and of suitable pattern, so as not to smash up on impact, the animal was either killed instantly where he stood or, if the bullet struck remote from an immediately vital spot, he was totally paralyzed and incapable of moving either until finished off with another shot or left to keel over himself, stiff-legged, like a child's toy. One instance was given of a Scotch stag being shot with a Winchester .220 Swift rifle at somewhere in the vicinity of 300 yards' range. The sportsman stated that the stag never flinched (he was using a Zeiss telescope sight) and he thought he had missed clean. He was about to fire again when the stag collapsed. It never moved from the spot on which it had been standing; yet the little forty-eight grain slug, which had mushroomed perfectly, had only penetrated about two inches into the brisket. I myself have for many years past used a Holland & Holland .375 Magnum for everything from elephant down. I consider it the deadliest weapon in existence.

The old .375's (9.5 mm.) were always popular in Africa as general-purpose, medium-bore rifles; but some men complained that they occasionally lacked sufficient penetration. The result was that they discarded their .375's in favor of the .366 (9.3 mm.) or .350, both of which had a very much better weight to diameter ratio of bullet. So Holland & Holland introduced their .375 Magnum, merely a stepped-up edition of their original .375. They improved the shape of the old bullet and loaded it into a much larger and stronger shell with a heavier powder charge behind it. The result was a rifle improved out of all recognition. Other makers were compelled to follow suit with their weapons. A greatly enhanced killing power is the result. But what causes it? What is there in the speed of penetration to cause complete paralysis of the nervous system? Because it is to be noted that if the bullet enters and then disintegrates it does not produce instant death; it seems to rely upon its lacerating properties.

One theory that has been put forward is "that there results a phenomenon of 'shock' differing in its features from any with which we are acquainted. That the passage of a projectile of a given diameter, at a high velocity, through tissues of high liquid content, sets up a violent 'wave' (of pressure or oscillation) at right angles to its course and against the inertia of the surrounding tissues. This wave of mechanical shock transmitted through and indefinitely far around the tissues about the axis of the bullet's course, directly (and more extensively than the bullet itself could) affects the functions of all vital structures and elements it reaches — in short, a blow against all the minute cells comprising living tissues—but, without causing as much visible laceration as certain expanding, or disrupting, bullets of smaller bore and higher velocity are known to." That's the theory offered for examination.

It might be asked, "But what the devil does it matter? We know that the modern magnum is deadlier than its low-velocity counterpart; very well, why worry? Just use it and be satisfied!" That's all very fine; but if we knew the reason for these things, it might be possible to produce a light rifle that would be suitable for use against

dangerous game. I defy any man to show that he can use a heavy rifle equally as quickly and equally as effectively at the end of a long, hard day, when he is dog-tired, as he could have in the morning when he started out, or as he could an appreciably lighter weapon. At present the .375 Magnum is the lightest rifle that can be safely taken against heavy and dangerous game at close quarters in thick cover. It certainly cannot be described as heavy. At the same time if a lighter weapon could be built capable of doing its work, well, why not?

I have occasionally been asked, "But what is the particular advantage in dropping your animal instantly where he stands? So long as you have shot him through the heart he is yours; what does it matter if he runs forty or fifty yards after receiving the bullet?"

Well, just picture it to yourself. Suppose you had a bunch of lions in front of you: They are in an open patch, but there is long grass just beyond them. They may have been making a nuisance of themselves—man-eating or cattle-killing or something of the sort. It is desirable to wipe them out. If you shoot them with a low-velocity rifle of medium power, you may feel pretty sure that you have put your slugs through the heart each time; but you cannot be certain because each and every one of them managed to get into that long grass. No lion is dead until you get his hide off. It is positively incredible how lions can, and sometimes do, "come to life again" after apparently being dead—as many a man knows to his cost! Now one wounded lion in a clump of grass is enough for the average man; two is a surfeit for a glutton; but a possible three or more! They may all be dead; but one or two may still have a kick left in them. Had you been using a magnum edition of that rifle, those lions would never have reached that grass. In the event of one or more being not quite dead, you could have finished them off then and there.

I might add that this peculiar property of shock does not belong solely to the expanding bullet; you see it also with the solid. I have many times dropped African buffalo flat in their tracks, dead as kippered herrings, with the bluff-nosed solid 300 grain bullet from my .375 Magnum, as well as with the 270 grain semipointed soft nose; but most extraordinary of all perhaps is the effect of the 300 grain solid on elephant. When possible I always take a brain shot; but it is by no means always possible to choose your shot. Time and again have I brought an elephant down with this bullet in the heart, where with anything else under .577 he would have run a considerable distance before falling. On a frontal chest shot it will bring him down in just the same way—seldom has he managed to get to his feet again; and even more seldom has he required a second shot to finish him off. It is by far the cheapest rifle I know where expenditure of ammunition is concerned; and that is thanks to its firing a bullet of high striking velocity. ◆ ◆ ◆

The .25-20 Repeater

(Continued from page 22)

The .25-20 high-speed cartridge compares favorably in trajectory with the standard Hornet cartridge up to 100 yards, there being less than a half-inch difference at midrange in favor of the faster Hornet. The blunt nose .25-20 bullet begins to lose speed much faster over the second 100 yards, however, and its midrange trajectory height when sighted to hit point of aim at 200 yards is roughly eight inches against five for the Hornet. Practically, this means that the effective range of the .25-20 high-speed cartridge is about fifty yards less than that of the Hornet. Therefore, if the .25-20 high-speed be sighted in at 125 yards, the bullet should not rise or fall more than three inches over 150 yards. A turkey, a hawk, a woodchuck, or a coyote should be hit reliably over this distance; to hit at longer ranges will require very accurate range estimation and knowledge of the proper aiming allowance.

While it is admittedly more difficult to hit small game and varmints at the longer ranges with the .25-20 than it is with rifles of the Hornet class, the former usually kills better when it lands, due to its heavier bullet, particularly on coyotes and like-sized animals. On the other hand, the .25-20 because of lower initial velocity does not mutilate the smaller game animals so badly at the shorter ranges. As a matter of fact, the standard load is but slightly more destructive on squirrels and cottontails than is the .22 high-speed hollow point rimfire cartridge. Some meat will be spoiled with both, of course, unless head shots can be taken—which they should be.

As for rifles, before the war there was a choice of bolt and lever, the Marlin and Remington slide actions having been discontinued. Of the two, I would prefer the lever-action Winchester in a rifle of this class, due to its handiness and speed of repeating shots, especially for running game. This model Winchester, which has also become obsolete, is also perhaps a shade more accurate in this caliber than is its cheaper bolt-action rival. The choice, however, should be made on a basis of personal preference, and should conform to what the shooter uses in other calibers, in order to get full value from shooting practice with the intermediate .25-20. Aperture hunting sights, or a low mounted scope, are indicated in any event, although young eyes can do very well with the open sights as issued.

The argument for the .25-20 may be summed up quite simply. It is not in the running against heavy scope-sighted varmint rifles for long-range precision shooting; but it may well be a better choice for an all-round medium range small-game varmint rifle for wooded country. This is especially true for the farmer, the rancher, and the casual shooter who doesn't know too much about clicking micrometer mounts, fouling shots, uniform rests, and all the ritual necessary to shoot the Lovells, the Varminters, and the Swifts. ◆ ◆ ◆

Mounting that Scope

(Continued from page 15)

particular trouble in drilling any of our sporting rifles or late military rifles. They are tough rather than hard. Lard or lard oil is a good drill lubricant on these. On early Springfields and Krags, it is apt to be a different story. Some of them drill easily while others seem to have got lost for a day or so in the case hardening bath and are glass hard all the way through.

Once one goes professional in this game, he soon learns that the customers do the easy jobs at home and bring the nasty ones to the shop. More power to them; I used to do the same. But if you contemplate hanging out your shingle, you can expect some grief on these hardened receivers. I quote from a recent letter I received:

"I have a Model 1896 Krag rifle Number 82373 on which I would like to mount a 330 Weaver scope. I have a T mount but have been unable to drill the receiver. I believe it is hardened all the way through. I had the rifle in to a local machinist and he tried to soften the metal with a carbon arc and also with a torch but didn't have any luck. We used high-speed drills both in a high-speed electric drill and a lathe. He has never tried this before so didn't know how far he could go without hurting the receiver. Could you tell me how this receiver can be drilled or could you do the work for me?"

This man had the situation sized up pretty accurately and it actually was the hardest receiver I have even seen. I couldn't even make an impression on it with my hard center punch until I had spot annealed it. Annealing doesn't depend so much on high heat as it does upon reaching a certain critical heat and cooling very slowly so that the molecules of the steel have a chance to rearrange themselves. On this job I first tinned the spots where the holes were to go, then applied a heavy drop of solder. The object of this was to provide a medium of heat transfer. Then I heated a large heavy soldering iron red hot and applied the tip of it to the previously applied drop of solder. I held it in this position until cool, and repeated the process on the other hole location. Heat thus applied doesn't spread far enough to damage the receiver. It will color the steel blue even on the inside of the receiver wall, but only in the immediate vicinity of the spot being softened. It doesn't actually soften very much either, just enough for a drill and tap to be used.

Be that as it may, we have the first hole drilled and are now ready to tap threads in it. Never use anything but a T-handled wrench on these small taps. When the ordinary adjustable wrench is used on a small tap, it will only produce crooked threads and broken taps. The tap must be lubricated. Ordinary lubricating oil is worthless for this purpose. Lard or lard oil will work after a fashion, especially on soft steels. The best lubricant is a mixture of sperm oil and white lead. Work the tap through the hole slowly and carefully, backing it up frequently to break the chip. If you have suitable taps, it is well to use an undersize tap first. If the final thread is to be 10 x 32, a 3/16 x 32 tap is a good starter. It has the same thread and is two and one-half thousandths smaller.

Anchor the mount in place with a screw in this first hole. Then bore sight the rifle as before and clamp the mount in place. Scribe the screw hole in the opposite end of the mount and proceed with the drilling and tapping. Now screw the mount in place on the gun. Don't neglect to tighten the screws very tight; they are tough and will take it. The recoil of a heavy caliber is severe and will tear the mount loose if you neglect this point. I use Glyptal on the threads of the screws. This is a steel cement put out by General Electric. It seals against moisture and helps hold the screws. Then I set the heads in place by a couple of good punch marks on them. They don't work loose on you this way. Give the gun a final bore sighting and finish zeroing with the internal adjustments of the scope itself. You can't sight in exactly this way but you should come within a foot of center at 100 yards. Then take it out to the range and find out. What? It's so far off you can't even zero it without using shims? Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said, "Well, I'll be a %#&**)**)%$#&(??"

While on the subject of mounts, the Nydar shotgun sight should be mentioned. While not a scope, it is so closely related it comes in the same class. The mounting holes in this sight are drilled at a peculiar angle and I find it very difficult if not impossible to get them where they belong unless I use the drill and tap guide bushings made for this purpose. They are relatively inexpensive and the Nydar Company is prepared to furnish them. Don't try to mount a Nydar without stripping the gun action completely. Even if you don't strike internal parts with drill or tap, you will have steel cuttings inside which must be cleaned out. On automatic shotguns, the receiver walls are so thin that quite a bit of the mounting screws will project inside. Tighten and anchor them in place; then grind off the projections with a small mounted stone in the electric hand drill. The rear ones will have to be ground through the ejection port of the gun. To avoid marring the edges of the port, fold a piece of sheet copper around them.

Just one more thought and a lament. With all our scope mounts, I maintain we still don't have a good one. Internal adjustments in a scope are an evil forced on us by poor mounts. They greatly increase the cost of a scope and they constitute a weakness. Occasionally they come loose inside. Some makers take elaborate precautions to seal against moisture, so, to put the idea in reverse, some makes must take water. Heretic that I am, I doubt if these precautions, along with pens that write under water, are necessary. I don't believe any good modern scope will take water unless you dunk it in the creek or hunt in the tropics, neither of which most of us do. If all adjustments were in the mount, the scope reticule could be placed in the optical center and left there. Then these troubles, however theoretical, would be avoided.

I encountered a peculiar case recently. A local man who is really a good hunter was missing easy shots on deer with his newly mounted scope. I knew the scope was properly sighted in so we couldn't figure out the reason for a while. An engineer looked into the matter and presently came up with his findings. It developed that the hunter, as all good hunters should, was shooting with both eyes open. The scope was zeroed but the tip of the post reticule was well off the optical center of the glass. In shooting, one eye sought the optical center of the lens while the other watched the game outside the scope. The pictures coincided but not with the reticule of the scope. Farfetched? I wouldn't know. Anyway, the trouble was gone when the reticule was placed in the optical center and the rifle zeroed with the mount.

The Old Coach

"THE BACK DOOR"

As YOU RIDE ALONG the country roads, do you ever pass the time by watching for a highway sign unmarked by rifle or pistol fire? You won't find many in some areas. Evidence of this simple diversion can also be found on power line insulations, R.F.D. mail boxes, and other familiar roadside objects. Nothing escapes the plinkers. No one, it seems, can escape the expense caused by their thoughtless shooting.

Let's line up the victims and look 'em over. First, the Government with its loss of our tax funds. Next, the disgustingly large annual deficit suffered by the public utilities through wire clippings and insulator smashing. And, of course, at the tail end is the big loser, the taxpayer and landowner.

What do you think of when you notice that these victims are all members of dissimilar and powerful groups? I think of a potentially strong public opinion and millions of votes, all aimed against our shooting future.

We shooters sound off with an impressive voice when our privilege to own and use firearms is threatened. Like all other things, the power of that voice is relative. There are millions of voters who have never made up their minds about firearms legislation. Because they have no definite opinion, our small voice has been heard and heeded when antigun laws have been introduced into state and national legislatures. Thoughtless behavior by only a few armed individuals can turn those undecided millions into a powerful opponent.

Do not underestimate the magnitude of our latent opposition. Even the vote of confirmed riflemen in our ranks becomes ripe for political plucking by the registration gang, once his property and family have been subjected to a few seasons of vandalism and promiscuous shooting.

I think you will agree that the author of the following letter is more tolerant than can be expected of average "victims."

DEAR SIR:

I am a gun lover. Reloading, match shooting, fishing, and hunting have been my life time hobbies. A majority of my friends are hunters and lovers of the outdoors. I feel, however, that drastic steps must be taken to keep the use of firearms from certain types of uninformed or criminally careless owners. We live on a much traveled county road. A large park borders one side of our land and a golf course on the other. On weekends and holidays hundreds of pedestrians pass by and take short cuts through our property. Of these, possibly not one in a thousand carries a gun. Of these few who carry firearms another small percentage not only cause us an aggravating amount of property damage but also expose us to grave risk of personal injury and even death itself. One might conclude from our experiences that bearing a gun does, in some devilish way, fill some owners with an irresistible desire to shoot and destroy without thought of consequences.

Our farm buildings were constructed soon after the close of the ox cart era and lie close to and facing the highway. Years ago the old barn was remodeled into a packing shed. A row of closely spaced windows fills the side facing the road. During the past ten or fifteen years I am quite certain that the equivalent of every pane of glass in those windows has been shattered by either air rifle pellets or .22's. Some years ago a large window in the living room of our home was ruined by a .38 lead bullet that had come a long way.

When our two boys went into the armed forces we stored their two not too valuable cars in the old barn. Later, needing more room, we moved them a short distance into the orchard. When we went to get these cars and again place them in shelters, we found that both windshields and most of the other glass had been shot out.

We have a heavy duty pumping outfit at the far end of the orchard. One season some imbecile tacked a target on the door of the pumphouse and proceeded to sight in his deer rifle. The motor was completely ruined. Our 30,000 gallon tank is located on the highest elevation in the orchard about a half a mile from the pump. With much difficulty we found a gauge sufficiently sensitive to accurately show the height of water in the tank. The gauge was shot to pieces two weeks after it was mounted. All the water was lost from the tank.

One might surmise that we had an enemy who took delight in annoying us. I doubt it. Our neighbors report about the same experiences. Our farms are not posted.

Some years ago my wife and I drove eight miles from home to pick wild flowers. We parked the car on the roadside and walked a mile or so from it. When we returned there was a hole through the windshield. A cousin, living in the same county, got a bullet through his windshield while driving.

It is not in the public interest to have such outrages continue. I can remember at least two deaths in our community during the last twenty years and a number of slight to serious accidents, all due to careless handling of firearms. Our county has prohibited the outdoor use of both rifles and shotguns and a strong sentiment for such restriction is developing in neighboring counties.

H. E. T.

Those of us who love the shooting game have a job to do. It should stick out like a sore thumb and it probably does to some of us, but for the record I'll repeat it:

(1) Educate the neighborhood youngsters before they lay hands on that first air rifle or .22.

(2) Draw these youngsters into organized shooting.

(3) Present the problem to parents of untrained children who are about to enter the "air rifle age." Then convert and draw from these adults the additional help needed to fill out a schedule of supervision. Stress the fact that prohibition does not work! *All* youngsters, sooner or later, are exposed to firearms. At those times, safety lies in training, not in a parent's warning to "stay away from guns." An excellent text reference for this work is Shaffer's new book, *Greed and Carelessness.*

No matter how securely we lock the front door against undesirable state and national firearms laws, our back door is being levered open just a crack, or rather a county at a time. It's slower that way but, as I recall, the tortoise was no speed demon.

POWDER SMOKE: THE NEWS DESK . . . READERS COMMENTS

NRA MEMBERS' MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Members of the National Rifle Association for the election of Directors and conducting of other business which may be properly presented from the floor, as provided in the by-laws, will be held at Camp Perry, Ohio, on Thursday, August 7, 1947, to be attended by those members then in camp for the rifle matches. At the conclusion of business on August 7, the meeting will recess until the following Thursday, August 14, when it will be reopened for the conducting of business by those members participating in the pistol matches.

All Members of the Association have the privilege of the floor. The right to vote is limited to Life and Endowment Members, Benefactors, and Patrons.

Place of the meeting will be posted on the Camp Bulletin Board and in the Camp Perry Office of the Association.

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QUALIFICATION PAY FOR LOS ANGELES POLICE

Recently the Los Angeles Police Force adopted an ordinance which provides additional pay for pistol qualification. The pay, which continues for a twelve-month period after qualification, is $2 per month extra for Marksman, $4 per month for Sharpshooter, and $8 per month for Expert. Qualification as Distinguished Expert, which can be attained over a six-month period, entitles the member qualifying to additional pay of $16 per month.

Any member who qualifies in one of the lower grades may requalify at any time and receive pay for the higher qualification, though he cannot receive pay for more than one grade.

MEMBER KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

The co-pilot of the United Airlines DC4 which crashed while taking off from New York City's La Guardia Field on the night of May 29 was NRA-member Robert E. Sands, of Bayside, New York City. Sands had recently been getting in a lot of smallbore practice at the range of the Gunners Club of Long Island, in preparation for tournament shooting this season. He had shot there on the morning of May 29.

Sands was a veteran of 65 bombing missions and held the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

SHADEL RESIGNS

RIFLEMAN readers and friends of Bill Shadel, former Managing Editor of THE RIFLEMAN, will be interested to know that Bill has resigned to become a member of the news staff of Columbia Broadcasting System's Washington station, WTOP.

While RIFLEMAN correspondent in Europe during the war, Shadel began broadcasting regularly for CBS. Upon returning to Washington and the NRA, he continued to do one or two news shows daily in addition to his duties as RIFLEMAN Managing Editor. He is now devoting his full time to radio.

Bill's place on the magazine staff will be filled by John Scofield, long-time Associate Editor of THE RIFLEMAN. An NRA staffman since 1935, Scofield is the son of Kendrick Scofield, editor of the magazine's predecessor, *Arms and the Man*, from 1914 until 1924.

SHOOTING IN SCHOOLS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Several state schools for deaf youngsters have enthusiastically adopted the NRA Junior Rifle Club marksmanship program as a part of their recreational activities. During the past few months club charters have been issued to groups at the Mississippi School at Jackson, where separately organized boys' and girls' clubs operate, and to the New Mexico School at Santa Fe.

The popularity of shooting, both among the students and school administrators, is well substantiated by the following extracts from a letter by Roy G. Parks, Principal of the Jackson, Miss., school:

"We have had 36 boys and 32 girls participating in our rifle practice. I cannot give you the exact number of qualifications, but I believe that every boy and girl has qualified. As far as the boys and girls are concerned, if we would give them the rifles and ammunition they would live on the range. You know when you have youngsters 24 hours a day, seven days a week, there are rainy days and days that one runs out of something to do. All we have to do is say, 'Let's go to the range.' That ends our worries. We have shot in the neighborhood of 100,000 rounds of ammunition and we have had not a scratched finger so far. If the boys and girls are taught correctly in the beginning, one does not need any clever means of overcoming range procedure. Our boys and girls have a very healthy respect for a gun. They know that it can kill in the hands of a careless person. They know, at the same time, that given a reasonable amount of care they can get a great deal of enjoyment out of it. As a school administrator, I am naturally for a good program and I believe all administrators would be if they knew it would be possible without too much expense and if they understood the true nature of the shooting program."

At Santa Fe the younger students have their NRA chartered Junior Rifle Club while those over the age limit for junior activities have formed a Class A Senior Club. This school is 67 years old, antedating the statehood of New Mexico.

1947 SKEET NATIONALS

The National Skeet Shooting Association has announced that the National Skeet Championships will be held August 6 to 10, at Syracuse, New York. Programs for this championship shoot are now in preparation and will be available from William H. Lynch, 914 State Tower Building, Syracuse.

The Syracuse and Onondaga Hotels have set aside a number of rooms for skeet shooters and request that reservations for them be made early.

The annual meeting of NSSA members will be held August 7.

FEDERAL FIREARMS REGISTRATION

Although we have frequently published the facts, we continue to receive inquiries from members, probably those who have "joined up" in the past few months, regarding the registration of souvenir firearms brought home by veterans. Here again are the facts:

1. Under the provisions of the National Firearms Act, it is necessary to register with the nearest agent of the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit any firearm which is of the full automatic type; i.e., machine guns, machine rifles, machine pistols, and submachine guns. This includes weapons equipped with a "change lever," which makes it possible, by moving the lever or button, to fire the weapon either full automatically or semiautomatically.

2. It is also necessary to register any shotgun or rifle having a barrel length less than eighteen inches whether or not such weapon is capable of full automatic fire. An exception is allowed in the case of rifles chambered for the .22 rim-fire cartridge. Such rifles need be registered only if the barrel is less than sixteen inches long.

3. Pistols and revolvers are not registerable under the Federal law. The exceptions are those few foreign semiautomatic pistols which do have a change lever permitting full automatic fire and those foreign pistols which are equipped with a quick detachable stock-holster. Arms of this latter type are considered in the same class as rifles having less than an eighteen-inch barrel. These stock-holster pistols do not have to be registered if the lug or groove serving as the attachment for the stock is filed off or welded so that the stock cannot be attached.

4. No gun is required to be registered merely because it is of foreign make. If it does not fall within the classes described above, it is not registerable.

FIELD TELEPHONES AND RELOADING COMPONENTS AVAILABLE FROM DCM

Reloaders, rejoice! Powder, bullets, and primed cases are again available on the DCM price list. Caliber .30 primers are being procured. These should be available by August. The breakdown follows:

Item	Quantity Available	Price	Sales Procedure
Powder 4895	large	$0.225 lb.	*
Bullets, rifle, .30 cal. M2 (150 gr. flat base)	475,000	$7.15/M	**
Bullets, pistol, .45 cal.	400,000	$7.80/M	To Individuals
Cases, primed .30 cal.	limited	$17.95/M	To Individuals
Cases, primed .45 cal.	limited	$16.50/M	To Individuals
Primers, .45 cal. pistol	limited	$2.25/M (Not less than 1000)	To Individuals

* For your own good get together and order powder in 100 lb. lots (preferable) in your Club's name, as you will be charged for 100 lbs. freight no matter how small your order. Powder can be shipped only by freight. This No. 4895 is the present standard powder.

** These M2 rifle bullets are limited, and will be sold in lots of 1000, and then only to Clubs—not to individuals.

Better news yet! Caliber .30 M1 bullets (173 grain, boattail) are being pulled from defective ammunition. Two million bullets will be available when this operation is completed, probably by midsummer. Wait for further announcement—no inquiries relative to this will be answered.

Primers, .30 caliber, are on order by Ordnance Dept. The DCM hopes to have these for sale about the same time as the M1 bullets.

Anyone who has purchased .38 Special revolver ammunition through the DCM, and received copper-plated steel-jacketed bullets, is strongly urged to return that ammunition to the Ordnance Depot from which it was received. The Depot will replace it with an equal amount of ammunition loaded with lead bullets.

The advantages are three-fold:

1. Ammunition loaded with lead bullets is more accurate.

2. Lead bullets will not be so hard on the barrel of a high quality target revolver.

3. A small element of danger in the use of copper-plated steel-jacketed bullets will be eliminated.

The steel-jacketed bullets are smaller in diameter and lower in velocity, and there are reports that some bullets have not cleared the barrel, causing an explosion when the subsequent load was fired.

The disadvantage is that the freight or express charges, both ways, must be paid by the purchaser.

It is thought any one of the three advantages will more than offset the slight transportation charge.

Bonded Senior Rifle Clubs conducting .30 caliber rifle firing may now requisition from the Director of Civilian Marksmanship two EE8 field telephones and enough W-110 wire to accommodate the longest range ordinarily shot. These items will be on an extended loan basis with the DCM, accountable to the U. S. Army Signal Corps. The club will be responsible to the DCM. Clubs will also accept responsibility for maintaining these instruments in proper repair. The supply is limited. Please do not order these unless your club has a definite need for long-range fire control.

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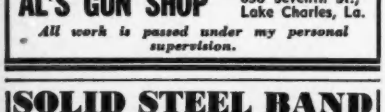

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The SPOTTING SCOPE With RAY STANN

There'll be a new rifle and a new pistol champion crowned at the National Championships at Perry this year. . . . Reason: Both Wayne Moore and Harry Reeves, the 1946 winners, will be in Stockholm representing the U. S. at the International Shooting Union Championships. . . . Warrant Officer C. A. Brown, the popular pistol shootin' "Smitty," is showing encouraging improvement after collapsing with a cerebral hemorrhage during the Marine Corps Matches at Quantico. . . . Let's pull for a complete recovery. . . . The Rifle Nationals this year will be the 63rd, which makes our sport one of the oldest in the country. . . . The first were held at Creedmoor in 1873. . . . The first Skeet Nationals under the sponsorship of the new National Skeet Shooting Association are expected to draw some 500 competitors. . . . The matches will be held on the beautiful Onondaga Club fields at Syracuse, N. Y., August 6-10.

☆ ☆ ☆

Army's recently announced postwar organization calls for 2,483 pistols for combat divisions . . . compared to 1,329 pistols in the division at the close of the war and some 600 or 700 when the triangular division was originally constituted . . . strange recognition for an arm some antigun folk are saying is as obsolete in modern warfare as the Gatling Gun. . . . Note also the 81 sniper rifles as compared to none in the original triangular division. . . . Don't envy the U. S. International Team too much. . . . It faces a concentrated two-week training period at Quantico before taking off and then a full schedule of competition in Sweden. . . . Still they'll not find time to fire in half the combined smallbore, service rifle, and pistol events scheduled. . . . Note that in the make-up of the eight-man "all-around" team (reported in this issue) there is one active Marine and six who have received much of their training in the Corps.

☆ ☆ ☆

Announced last month through the U. S. Treasury Press Service was the formation of a special committee to promote public safety in the handling of explosive-type war trophies. . . . Besides Treasury, the War and Navy Departments and the NRA are represented. . . . Plans call for the appointment of special local committees in each state, embodying representatives of the four participating agencies to map out a threefold program: (1) To inform owners of trophies (grenades, mines, shells, etc.) which are not suitable as sporting or defense arms, how and where they may be rendered harmless (by Army and Navy Ordnance). (2) To inform owners of potential sporting arms how they may be made safe and how to use them properly (by NRA). (3) To inform owners of machine guns and other registerable weapons where they should be registered (by Alcohol Tax Unit). . . . The program also should halt misleading Alcohol Tax publicity regarding registration of souvenirs. . . . At NRA urging the Treasury agency agreed to give state committees (thus NRA) a voice in future registration drives.

WALTER WALSH RETURNS TO MARINE CORPS

Former FBI Agent Walter R. Walsh, one of the top ranking pistol shooters in the country, has recently resigned from the FBI and returned to active duty with the Marine Corps, in which he served during the war. Lt. Col. Walsh is on duty at Marine Corps Headquarters, as Officer in Charge of the Reserve Target Practice Section.

CHALLENGE

The active South Side Rifle and Pistol Club of Kalamazoo, Michigan, has been victorious in a number of matches recently. It is now looking for other clubs who are interested in firing shoulder-to-shoulder or postal matches with them (either rifle or pistol). Interested clubs will please contact the club secretary, Charles Cowles, 1203 Warren Place, Route Nine, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

NEW YORK SHOOTER DIES

On May 14, at the age of 58, Samuel A. Milman of Brooklyn, N. Y., passed away. Sam was a familiar figure at the old Sea Girt matches and at Camp Perry, where he captained the New York .30 caliber team in 1938-1939.

At the start of the recent war, Milman enlisted in the 165th Regiment of New York, and became a commissioned officer. He was buried with full military honors.

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RICOCHETS

A LESSON IN BUYING

Saginaw, Mich.

Editor:

Recently I purchased a .45 automatic pistol through an ad in THE RIFLEMAN. I obtained my permit to buy from the local police department, sent the permit with a check to the seller, and in return received a very excellent Remington Rand .45 Army automatic of the latest issue. I took this pistol to the police for registration whereupon they promptly confiscated it. This pistol was marked property of U. S. Government, M1911A1 U. S. Army, and our police department has orders from the F. B. I. to confiscate "all" handguns marked government property unless registerer has a bill of sale from the government, said bill stating that firearms thus obtained shall not be transferred. I sure hated to give that gun up.

Why don't all advertisers specify Army issue or commercial model and not just a .45 automatic in their ads. The words "Military Model" and "Government Model" could mean either.

CARL EBERT.

ALMOST A HUNDRED

New Braunfels, Texas.

Editor:

Under Richochets in the May issue, I notice where the Secretary of the Hartford Rifle Club makes the statement that his club is eleven years older as an active club than the Walnut Hill Club of the Massachusetts Rifle Association, which, in turn, is older than the Rhode Island Rifle Club.

The Rhode Island Club being seventy years old, Walnut Hill an older club, and the Hartford Club still older by eleven years, I am unable to figure out how old the Hartford Club is. However, let me add that our club will hold its ninety-eighth annual anniversary medal shoot on July 4, the club having been organized on July 4, 1849.

HAROLD W. ADAMS, *Secretary*,
New Braunfels Schuetzen Verein.

CHEAP GUNS

Wyandotte, Mich.

Editor:

Thank you very much for your kind words concerning cheap rifles in match use (Old Coach, June 1947). I have a few friends who like shooting but give up when they get to the range and see everyone else with $200 or $300 worth of equipment.

I had a Mossberg 44 at one time and it was very accurate. It was stolen from me so I borrowed a Mossberg 46 and went to the range. There was only one other fellow there and he had a Winchester 52 with a Lyman scope and an Argus spotting scope. He looked my borrowed gun over and then told me it had no place on a range and I couldn't do any match shooting with a cheap gun.

I found that he was a stranger driving through and didn't belong to any local club, but you can see how a beginner would have felt.

I now have a Remington 37 and all equipment but most of us have to start small and work up. It's the shooters with the $15 and $20 guns that keep up the interest.

When I'm out shooting and some kids come along with cheap, single-shot rifles, I usually tack up some targets for them and coach them

a little bit and let them use my spotting scope, and then before we leave I let them take a few shots with the 37.

I've never fired in a match because my hours of work don't usually permit it but I have a lot of fun with the kids and I know that when they have tried a good gun they will be wanting one.

Thanks again.

Max Ray Schwartz.

PRO . . .

Chicago, Illinois.

Editor:

I'm getting pretty tired of reading apologies about why THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN has only 88 pages instead of 96 and so on.

As far as I'm concerned, it's the best magazine money can buy. We all know you are doing your best to make it interesting and instructive, a job which I feel is just about perfection. Therefore, no apologies are necessary.

The only fault I find is that the periods of waiting for the next copy are too long. A month seems like a year.

C. W. Lawrence.

. . . AND CON

Bloomington, Indiana.

Editor:

After looking through the June issue I took a good look at the cover to see if I had the right magazine. I began to think I was looking at *The Ladies' Home Journal.* Four stories; two articles on guns, one of them really a story, and the other out of place. Who can buy a Garand?

The Old Coach and the ads are OK. Please don't do it again.

Ray Elliott.

THE KANGAROO RIFLE

Meandarra, Queensland, Australia

Editor:

One half of the shooting world does not know what the other half uses—so we are told. But since I became a subscriber to THE RIFLEMAN 18 months ago, I've learned a lot about what is dished up in the USA. I'm sure readers have occasionally wondered what we are using to throw the lead with on this side of the Pacific, where 20 years ago the American repeating rifle was universally used. Rifles such as the Winchester 92 Model in .25-20 and .32 were to be found in use everywhere in the back country. The 94 Models in such calibers as the .32-40 were common enough too, besides the Remingtons, Marlins, and Savages in all the popular types then listed.

After World War I, the .303 Lee Enfield gradually replaced the lower power rifles, mainly because it was cheap and easy to obtain.

War II meant no imported ammo and now (exclusive of the .22 rimfire which is locally made) 99 percent of shooters use the one and only available Hi-power, the old war horse .303. In it they shoot regular military ammo with its 179 gr. Spitzer bullet driven at about 2450 foot-seconds. For kangaroo shooting we usually cut the points off, and I mean cut off, too, not just tipped and drilled, but hacksaw and then file them back till there is about 9/16 to 5/8 inches of bullet left out of the shell. I have used many thousand of these doctored bullets and have never had a blown core. I know many shooters who have had similar success, which is probably due to the heavy jacket which folds further around the base

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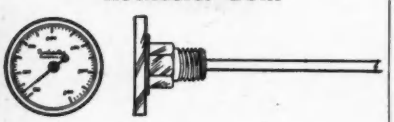

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as compared to the 150 grain .30-'06 bullet.

Unfortunately, the .303 has not been developed as a sporter to the extent most of us would like. Many gunsmiths have been converting the rifles, but we still need a good sporting bullet of about 140 grains or even less, although I have always found the filed-off slug a fairly reliable killer it is far from the Ideal. It should be remembered that the flat nosed bullet is generally considered more accurate when there is no wind. Therefore, I usually cut off less point for use on windy days. Unlike most full-patch bullets, the Mark VII (174 grain) has a light tip. The lead core does not come right to the front of the jacket, there being a separate plug of light material in the nose. Therefore, point cutting does not reduce the bullet weight to a great extent.

The short Lee Enfield rifle will convert to a handy sporter and if well bedded will shoot as straight as most shooters can hold. (Two wildcats locally made use the British case. They are the .22-303 and .25-303 and apparently conform to the standards of "whoever makes 'em" as regards throat lengths, etc.) They are good killers but have the one great drawback of all wildcats—ammo, supplies.

Each year tens of thousands of kangaroos and wallabies are shot for their skins, many of which are exported to the USA. The next time you see a kangaroo hide or part thereof, don't go scratching your head as to how it got there—99 chances to one it has at one time been "out in front" of a .303 Lee Enfield, the cartridge a Mark VII, and the range between 100 and 200 yards. Of course, now and again you meet a shooter who can knock 'em at 700 or more yards (perhaps ½ a mile) range. But I never try anything over 250 yards when 'roo hunting. It might strain my pet sporter.

INNES S. BOGLE.

CREDIT

Caldwell, Idaho.

Editor:

Our attention has been called to the article by E. B. Mann in your April issue, 1947, entitled "Wild Bill Hickok," and we note that the article opens, without acknowledgment, with a quotation from the preface to Eugene Cunningham's *Triggernometry* published by us.

J. H. GIPSON, *President,*
The Caxton Printers, Ltd.

The opening quotation in Mann's article was credited to Eugene Manlove Rhodes, who contributed the foreword to Triggernometry. *We regret the omission of the title and name of the publishers of the book in which this foreword appeared.*—ED.

GUNS IN ENGLAND

Stockport, Cheshire, England.

Editor:

Occasional hold-up and shooting cases reveal that despite the ban imposed on servicemen bringing into the country ex-enemy weapons and the Home Office plea for the surrendering of all unregistered firearms, there are still a good number of handguns about in the country. Some of these illicit weapons sell at big prices, and in proportion the ammunition for them commands a very high figure. Reported cases show that the Luger and the Walther are the two pistols mostly involved.

Such incidents give rise to something like panic in the nonshooting fraternity which, of

course, runs to, I should think, about 95 percent of the British community.

It is still extremely difficult to procure a Firearms Certificate or an addition to one's permit, and one feels like a criminal when approaching the police authorities on such a mission. It has always seemed incongruous to me that a nation in time of war will entrust any Tom, Dick, or Harry with a firearm (often a weapon which is more deadly to friend than foe), and yet during the peace interval a man of dependability and true firearms knowledge must go on bended knee to acquire the right to possess a much desired weapon.

When one remembers what a pitiable fire-

arm-less picture this country presented after Dunkirk, when the threat of invasion was imminent, and the Government went, cap in hand, to America, and thus to American citizens, asking for any type of weapon which could be spared in order to equip the Citizen Army, and the Home Guard (had we been firearms conscious and a nation of riflemen, the panic and alarm would have been negligible), it is galling to see that the old smug attitude of the antifirearms gang and pacifists is again triumphant. Despite the fact that I lectured on such things at the BAOR Training Center, I was refused the necessary permission when I applied to bring home my excellent collection of small-arms ammunition (laboriously, sometimes dangerously, gathered, during the whole period of the NW Europe campaign from D-Day onwards) which I had used for instructional purposes. Another point which added gall to the wormwood was that being known whether rightly or wrongly as something of an expert in small arms and ammunition, I had offered my services in this capacity at any time to the Police Authorities.

Having most definite views on this subject, I view with disgust the dismal Jimmies and maybe politically misguided individuals who are seeking to interfere with the American's right to possess firearms. I, as an Englishman onlooker, regard that as an attempt to interfere with a national heritage. In America personal unfettered possession of hand weapons is a tradition born with the republic and a prime factor in the establishment of American greatness and independence. I can only hope that the good sense of the majority, fostered and directed, militantly and vigorously, by the National Rifle Association of America, will deal very brusquely but effectively with the parasitical growth which threatens a dominant interest, a great sport, and a national bulwark.

There is still a lack of shooting consciousness in this country. Perhaps some of the responsibility for this unhappy state lies at the feet of so-called musketry instructors, many of whom had absolutely no idea of teaching a man to shoot, or of inculcating into the average man the true worth of his weapon, and that unbounded pleasure which a rifle can give to a man.

FLYING OFFICER C. SHORE.

BULLET DROP

Riverton, Oregon.

Editor:

I notice in the May issue of THE RIFLEMAN, in Ricochets, that one Mr. L. B. Martin has caught me with my range tables down. His letter was in criticism of my article, "A Hunter

Al Freeland, proprietor of one of the best known Gun and Sport Shops in the Middle West.

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Rem. Sportsman 12 Ga. Auto.	94.00
Rem. M. 241 LA 22 Auto. Rifle	57.50
22 Cal. L. R. Ammunition	8.39
Lyman Alaskan Scopes	55.00

ADRIEN J. GRENIER, North Grosvenordale, Conn.

Looks at Killing Power," in the January RIFLEMAN.

He is right in saying that no factory .30-'06 ammunition of 150 or 180 grain weight has an 11-inch drop at 300 yards when the rifle is sighted to hit point of aim at 200. The figures should have been 9 and 9.5 inches drop for those bullet weights. The 150 grain in the .270 has an 11-inch drop over this range when sighted to hit point of aim at 200 yards. Yet my contention that the .30-'06 at 300 yards, regardless of the loading, must hit a vital 12-inch target to be effective still stands.

It so happens that I think the .30-'06 is one of our best game rifles for deer, but I cannot kid myself that it hasn't its limitations.

EDMUND WATERS.

WELCOME, FOREST

Huron, South Dakota.

Editor:

I wish to introduce my son Forest, age 21, to the NRA. A returned veteran of 19 months service in Germany, starting at Normandy, he is my last and only son. His older brother lies buried on Ie Shima, an island off Okinawa, a sacrifice that we might enjoy the NRA and pursuit of other freedoms. This (membership) is a birthday present from me, his father.

H. F. DEVERS.

UNFORTUNATE

Longview, Texas.

Editor:

This is just a note to let you know I thoroughly enjoy THE RIFLEMAN—and to ask you a question. Who is the man facing the camera in the top picture, page 14, May issue? I maintain it is Dennis Morgan (for two bucks)—a couple of friends violently disagree. If possible, would you settle it for us?

B. D. YARIAN.

Yarian, hand over that two bucks! The fellow you claim to be Dennis Morgan is Republic Studio's Clayton Moore.—ED.

One two inch Unertl spotting scope No. 9735 and one Argus spotting scope. John Perzo, 630 East Eighth Ave., Gary, Indiana.

Colt Woodsman No. 184175, with plastic grips and 4½ inch barrel; Model H. D. Military .22 caliber High Standard, No. 170981, with 6¾ inch barrel. George Fager, 915 Fifth Avenue South, Clinton, Iowa.

One 7.65 mm. Luger, No. 17228. John F. Herred, Box 61, Baker, California.

Winchester Model 75 .22 caliber rifle No. 1882; Malcolm Scope No. 5536 attached; Smith & Wesson .32-20 pistol No. 67933. $25 reward for return. Howard S. Livingston, Halls Lane, Route 1, Box 29, Madison, Tennessee.

S & W Military Police .38 Special, No. 814664. Arthur R. Watson, Star Route, Laytonville, Calif.

Winchester Model 12 20-gauge shotgun, No. 11370; Winchester Enfield No. 66853; .30-'06 Springfield No. 1392591; Savage 19H K-Hornet No. 212268. William A. Hilder, 318 S. Helena, Spokane, Washington.

.38 Enfield revolver, No. 1972 (1937 manufacture), Parker-Hale .22 cylinder and barrel for above, Parker-Hale canvas covered case. Major Eugene M. Long, 1061 Katherine St., Augusta, Georgia.

12 gauge Parker double shotgun, No. 233681, 28-inch barrels, improved cylinder, special straight stock, white line recoil pad. .30-30 Savage Model 99, No. 316658, folding express rear sight, Lyman red bead front sight, Redfield Jr. scope mounts, Weaver 29S scope. Capt. Stan B. Wade, 715 Standish Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey.

COMING EVENTS

The four classes of registered tournaments are indicated as follows:

AA—National Matches.
A—Regional Tournaments.
B—State Championship or large district matches.
C—Local tournaments.
Un—Indicates tournaments that are not registered.
Tournaments requiring Advance Entries are indicated by **Adv** and tournaments that plan to limit the entries to a predetermined number are indicated by **Ltd.**

JULY

4-5, South Carolina (B)—South Carolina State Small Bore Matches. R. W. Poore, Jr., 113 Chandler St., Greenville. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

4-5-6, Pennsylvania (A)—Eastern Regional Small Bore. R. B. Barry, 407 Second Ave., Altoona. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

4-5-6, California (A)—Far Western Regional Small Bore, Richmond. Chilton DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, Calif. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

4-5-6, Virginia (A)—Eastern Regional Pistol. W. Archie Keys, 238 4th Ave., Quantico. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

4-5-6, Louisiana (A)—Southwestern Regional Pistol. J. W. McInnis, 207 Carrolton St., Shreveport. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

5-6, New York (C)—"Hellcat Trophy," Bethpage. Ed Moore, 87-27-257 St., Floral Park, L. I.

5, California (C)—Pistol. A. L. Bishop, Jr., 3911 Haines St., San Diego, 9.

5-6, Iowa (A)—Midwestern Regional Rifle Tournament. Vance E. Blosser, 3905 Amio Avenue, Des Moines. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

6, Washington (C)—Capitol Pistol League Match, Raymond. Mr. Malcolm B. Edwards, P. O. Box 252, South Bend.

6, California (Un)—Southland Pistol Matches. R. S. Pease, Sec., Route 3, Box 84, San Diego.

11-12-13, Connecticut (A)—Northeastern Regional Small Bore. A. J. Griffin, c/o Lyman Gun Sight Corp., Middlefield. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

11-12-13, Oklahoma (A)—Southwestern Regional Small Bore, Tulsa. E. M. Fuller, 505 W. Maple St., Stillwater. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

11-12-13, California (A)—Far Western Regional Pistol. Lt. Al Strand, Los Angeles Police Dept., Los Angeles. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

12, Pennsylvania (C)—Kittanning "All Night Dewar" Match. E. W. Cook, 926 Orr Ave., Kittanning.

12-13, Ohio (A)—North Central Regional Rifle Tournament, Mt. Gilead. Mr. E. N. Littleton, 424 Wallace Ave., Bowling Green. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

12-13, Utah (A)—Northwestern Regional Small Bore. George R. Barcus, 755 East 5th So., Salt Lake City. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

12-12, West Virginia (C)—Fort Boreman Fifth Annual Open Small Bore. R. A. Simpson, Sec., 212 N. 10th St., Parkersburg.

12-13, Wisconsin (C)—Small Bore Match. A. D. Sanial, 424 Cass St., La Crosse.

13, Minnesota (C)—Fourth Annual Small Bore Tournament. George E. Monson, 2102 9th Ave., Hibbing.

13, Indiana (C)—Seventh Annual Registered Small Bore Rifle Tournament. Anthony W. Rosehart, 201 West Willard St., Muncie.

13, Colorado (B)—Colorado State Pistol Matches, Camp George West. L. F. Markle, 1006 Olive St., Denver, 7.

13, Iowa (B)—Iowa State Rifle Association Annual Pistol. Carl Prevatil, 2022 West 10th St., Davenport.

13, Tennessee (B)—State Championship Pistol Tournament. Frank B. Hill, 2902 Snowden Road, Nashville 4.

13, Montana (C)—22nd Annual Northwest Small Bore Rifle. F. J. Mesenko, 700 Oak St., Anaconda.

13, Pennsylvania (C)—Philadelphia Marksmen's League Small Bore Tournament, Homesburg. J. E. MacConville, 317 N. Easton Road, Glenside.

13, Pennsylvania (C)—York Riflemen Summer Small Bore Match. W. F. Kinsey, 200 West Jackson St., York.

18-19-20, Colorado (A)—Northwestern Regional Pistol. John Schooley, 540 Utica St., Denver. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

19-20, Michigan (A)—North Central Regional Pistol, Jackson. Insp. Marvin Driver, C.O. Training School, Detroit Police Dept., Detroit. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

19-20, Pennsylvania (C)—1st Annual Eastern Penna. Small Bore Rifle, Locksley Station. Cynthia Roberts, 1226 Harding Drive, Llanerch.

19-20, Texas (B)—Texas State Pistol Matches. Harry L. Kent, 2405 Dormarian Lane, Austin.

19-20, Tennessee (A)—Southeastern Regional Small Bore. Mr. A. W. Nine, 104 Underwood Place, Knoxville. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

19-20, Connecticut (Un)—Re-Entry Rifle Match, Wallingford. A. J. Griffin, Conn. State Rifle & Rev. Assn., Middlefield.

19-20, Illinois (C)—Blackhawk Rifle Club Small Bore. T. J. Barton, 1831 E. 72nd St., Chicago.

19-20, Maine (B)—Maine 12th Annual Small Bore Tournament, Damariscotta. Ralph A. Wagg, R.F.D. No. 1-A, Auburn.

(Continued on page 46)

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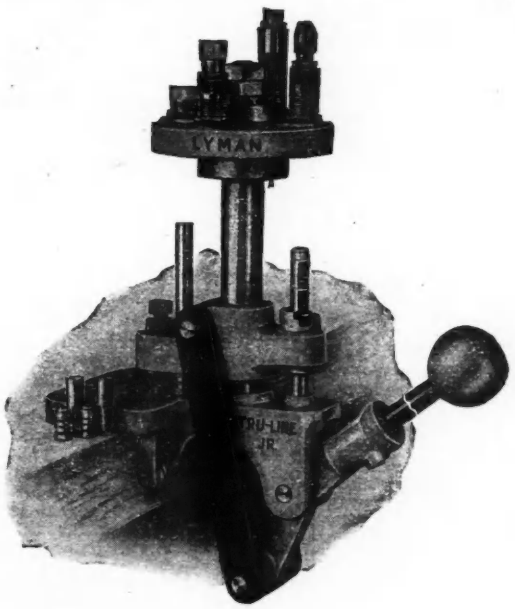

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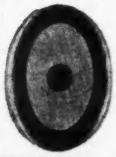

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Send 6¢ in stamps for new 1947 circulars.
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MAGIC COLD CHEMICAL Restores finish on 5 Guns. No heating! Can't injure steel. Simple process. Takes minutes.
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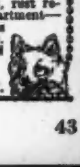


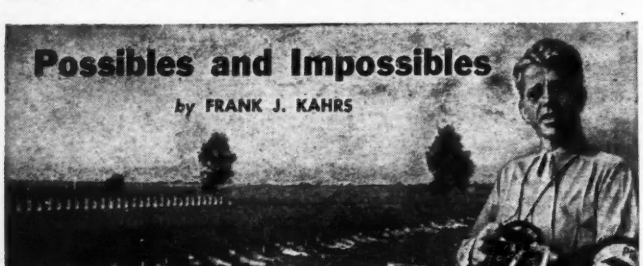
A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

Remingt

VOL. 10, NO. 7

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT,



For the first time since Pearl Harbor, I packed my bag recently and started out on familiar trails across the country to visit old friends and perhaps a few new ones. In the course of my travels, I ran across some interesting things which would not ordinarily come to my attention. I could write a book about this six weeks' trip I made recently and I believe I could, thus, throw much light on many problems that face us in this reconstruction period. However, I must stick to my subject, which is, "What About The Future of Rifle Shooting?"

Well, I gather from my observations and talks with leading shooters about the country that the future looks bright. I find, however, a deplorable lack of ranges, and where there are good ranges, I find a lack of appreciation for those little things that are necessary to one's comfort, convenience and pleasure in the sport of shooting.

During my trip I visited one of the State Championships. The days were beautiful but warm. There was a record attendance. Cars were parked all over the hillsides. There wasn't a tree in sight; that is, on the range. There wasn't a bench for a fellow to sit on. There was no drinking water. There was a house where the workers were and a firing shed, for which we were thankful until a very rude and cold-blooded Range Officer "threw us out!" Said we were disturbing the shooters, and the fact of the matter was, we hadn't said a word.

We can't see that there's been very much change because of the war, unless it is that there is more interest than ever in rifle shooting. We should have rifle ranges where a fellow can shoot at 200, 600 and 1,000 yards the way we used to; a place where a fellow can sight in his deer rifle, for instance. You can't do that on a small-bore range, not safely. Whoever is responsible should be sure to include rifle ranges along these lines, and should include, as I said before, many of those little things which add to the comfort and pleasure of rifle shooting as a sport.

Also, I don't like the idea of getting up at 5:30 or 6 o'clock in the morning to be on the range at 7 o'clock to start the day's shooting and to get through at 6 or 7 o'clock at night. That's not my idea of sport. They don't do that in golf, tennis or baseball. Let's arrange programs so that you can shoot for three hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon and get home at a decent hour and stay on friendly terms with the "little woman."

These are a few observations I make as a result of my recent swing around the circuit. More on this later.

* * *

I had a letter from a hard-working rifle club secretary the other day, which amused and interested me very much. You could tell that the writer had a sense of humor because he dubbed himself the "wavin' wonder" who does nothing according to the book except holding his breath, and he even jerks rather than squeezes the trigger. But despite all this, while firing an offhand score recently with a liberated German single-shot open-sight Sporter, adjustable by guess and by gosh, in meter readings—not yardage or minutes of angle—he waved himself into a group of five shots that could be covered with a dime.

Many years ago, when a dime was much bigger than it is now, I made a group one night that was a honey, so I know what the "wavin' wonder" is talking about.

Oh, yes, I forgot to say in this instance he happened to be using some regular Remington Kleanbore 22's. Now, if you have read this far, I needn't say any more except, of course, to remind you that this was all done off-hand without the use of a sling or rest at 75 feet.

Gosh, I didn't know we made it that good!

NATIONAL

WELCOME MAT ALWAYS OUT AT REMINGTON CAMP PERRY HEADQUARTERS

BRIDGEPORT 2, CONN., July, 1947. Your Remington friends will be on hand at the Remington Headquarters at Camp Perry. And they want you to know that the welcome mat will always be out . . . the door unlatched . . . and the cold water cooler always waiting for you. So make it a point to make the Remington Headquarters at Camp Perry, *your* headquarters.

Movies—free, of course—will be shown often (and if you have any interesting 16mm films on shooting, bring 'em along). If you feel as if all the scope kibitzers are looking at your target or that those fishtail breezes have been plaguing you long enough, come on over to the Remington shack on Commercial Row. Drop in any time!

AROUND OUR CLUB . . . . . *Pre-Perry Practice*

emington News

WEATHER:
FORECAST: HOTTEST COMPETITION IN YEARS AT CAMP PERRY

ORT, CONN TICUT, JULY, 1947 — First Class Reading Matter for Rifle Shooters

L MATCHES—AUG. 4-16

SMALL-BORE INTEREST AT HIGH PEAK WITH ALL SIGHTS SET ON CAMP PERRY

A WINNING COMBINATION—the Remington Model 37, ideal for match shooting in all positions, and Palma Kleanbore—a match ammunition that's really running "hot."

BRIDGEPORT 2, CONN., July, 1947. More small-bore activity, more spectator interest, hotter competition—these reports have been pouring in from all over the country. They all mean the National Championship Matches at Camp Perry will be bigger and better than ever! The dates: Rifle Championships from August 4–9; Pistol Championships from August 11–16. Things will really hum there this year, and competition should be tough as nails.

Shooters interested in improving their scores (and who isn't) don't have to go far to find out what ammunition is running "hot." It's Remington Palma Kleanbore and Police Targetmaster!

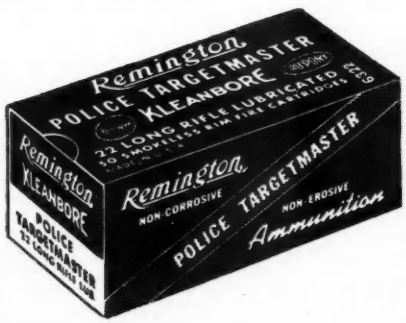
Consistently rated "tops" by shooters everywhere, this year's winners of Club, State and Regional Matches have been generous in their praise of this fine ammo. Recent letters from shooters indicate that more and more contestants are counting on it for high scores at Camp Perry.

The reason for this popularity is dependable accuracy. Remington's ballistic experts won't let a shipment leave the factory until they've proved it equal to the requirements of top-flight competitive shooting. It's good to know this when you settle into position, take a deep breath, and know that every shot must hit where you hold.

Word of top performance has a way of getting around—but fast! And if you're going to Camp Perry, just notice how many of the shooters who know—the high scorers—rely on Remington Palma Kleanbore and Police Targetmaster.

"TARGETMASTER" TOPS WITH HANDGUN CHAMPS

BRIDGEPORT 2, CONN., July, 1947. All handgun experts know that the ability of ammunition to shoot extremely tight groups must be matched by its ability to keep the widest groups down to a minimum. Remington Targetmaster fits this description perfectly. This quality of Targetmaster has contributed no small share in the winning of important pistol matches, including Camp Perry events. If you're looking for *tight* grouping as well as uniform grouping, be sure to shoot Remington Targetmaster.



Targetmaster, Palma, Kleanbore are Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. by Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport 2, Conn.

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Spitzer shaped copper tubing, soft points. Priced per 100, postpaid: 50, 55 & 60 grain .224" @ $2.65. 75 & 90 grain .257" @ $3.55. 100, 115 & 125 grain .257" @ $3.75. .270 in 100, 120, 130, 140 & 160 grain; 7MM. in 120, 140 & 160 grain; .30 in 110, 125, 150, 180 & 200 grain; 8MM. in 150, 160, 180 & 200 grain; all @ $4.00 per 100. Western rifle and pistol primers @ $5.80 per M. DuPont & Hercules rifle powders @ $1.80 per pound. Pistol powders @ $1.10 half pound. NEW PRIMED SUPER-X CASES: per 100—.250-3000, $6.90; .270, $7.00; .300 Magnum, $9.40. Sisk-Lovell 50 grain bullets @ $2.05. Speer 50 & 55 grain .224" hi-velocity bullets @ $2.80. Speer 60 grain .257" pointed soft points @ $3.55. Hollywood & Pacific dies @ $12.50 per set. A complete line of components, tools, measures, etc.

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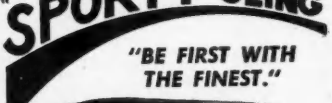

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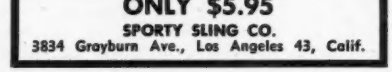

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W. D. Randall, Jr., Box 1988-R, Orlando, Florida
Send 3¢ for descriptive circular . . . 10¢ for Knife Manual . . . 35¢ for Knife Fighting Booklet.

(Continued from page 43)

20, Maryland (C)—Annual Summer Small Bore Rifle Tournament, Middle River. Robert H. Greer, 501 Mace Ave., Baltimore 21.
20, Minnesota (C)—13th Annual Minnesota Arrowhead Small Bore. James E. O'Leary, 200 6th Ave., So., Virginia.
20, New York (Un)—Pistol Tournament, Bethpage. Ed Moore, 87-27-257 St., Floral Park.
20, Illinois (C)—First Small Bore Rifle Match. Miss Thelma McDaniel, Longview.
20, Ohio (C)—Fourth Annual Thompson Trophy Small Bore Outdoor. Scott A. Edgell, 38 River St., Willoughby.
20, Wisconsin (Un)—State High Power Championship Matches. Joseph J. Ring, 1842 No. 83rd St., Wauwatosa.
20, New Jersey (C)—Golden Anniversary Rifle Tournament, Midvale. R. A. Harris, 60 Manor Rd., Paterson 2.
20, Maryland (C)—Maryland State Summer Rifle Tournament, Frostburg. Norman O. White, 121 Springdale St., Cumberland.
20, New York (C)—Small Bore Tournament, Oneida. George R. Story, Jr., Box 95, Vernon.
20, California (C)—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol Tournament, Lake Merced. Emile J. Dutil, 324 16th Ave., San Francisco 18.
26-27 Michigan (Un)—38th Annual .30 Caliber Rifle Matches, Camp Grayling. Dr. H. J. Kerr, 1441 Lakeshore Drive, Muskegon.
26-27, Oregon (A)—Pacific Northwestern Regional Small Bore, Clackamas. Willis B. Miller, 1432 N. E. Liberty St., Portland 11. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**
26-27, Ohio (Un)—Tenth Annual Muzzle Loading Rifle Match. H. W. Meiser, P.O. Box 48, Marietta.
26-27, New Jersey (B)—Annual New Jersey State Pistol Tournament, Hightstown. H. Philip Orem, Box 604, Plainfield.
27, New York (C)—Forbes Annual Summer Small Bore, Nassau. Henry Ristau, 38 Walker St., Rensselaer.
27, Vermont (B)—Eighth Annual Vermont State Pistol and Revolver Tournament, Northfield. P. H. Teachout, East Burke.
27, Pennsylvania (C)—Small Bore Rifle Tournament, Harrisburg. Mr. J. L. Smith, 1506 Walnut St., Camp Hill.
27, Illinois (Un)—.30 Caliber Rifle Matches, Fort Sheridan. Thomas Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron St., Chicago 44.
27, Indiana (C)—Small Bore Rifle Tournament. Rubert K. Rhodes, 3015 Noble St., Anderson.
27, Minnesota (B)—State Small Bore. Frank Ziegler, Mora.

AUGUST

2-3, Washington, D. C. (B)—Third Annual Pistol Tournament. Lt. W. R. Lutes, U. S. Park Police Hdqrs., Interior Building, Washington 25. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**
3, Illinois (Un)—.30 Caliber Rifle Matches, Fort Sheridan. Thomas Blakemore, 5004 W. Huron St., Chicago 44.
3, California (Un)—Pistol Match. Claire A. Bourelle, 2114 West 84th St., Los Angeles 44.
3, California (Un)—Oakland Pistol Matches. J. H. Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Ave., Oakland 11.
4-9, Ohio (AA)—National Small Bore Rifle, Camp Perry. **(Adv.-Ltd.)** National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington, D. C.
9-10, Wisconsin (B)—Wisconsin State Small Bore Championship Matches. Col. Jos. J. Ring, 1842 North 83rd St., Wauwatosa.
9-10, Ohio (C)—14th Annual Small Bore Open Tournament. H. W. Meiser, P. O. Box 48, Marietta.
11-16, Ohio (AA)—National Pistol Matches, Camp Perry. **(Adv.-Ltd.)** National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington, D. C.
15-16-17, Massachusetts (Un)—United Service of New England Rifle & Pistol Co. C. Daniel Berg, 29 Fellsway East, Malden.
16-17, Pennsylvania (C)—Fort Hand Rifle Tournament. G. W. Rupp, 1029 Hancock Ave., Vandergrift.
17, New York (C)—Pistol Tournament, Bethpage. Ed Moore, 87-27-257 St., Floral Park, Long Island.
17, Illinois (C)—Outdoor Small Bore Rifle. Byron E. Rutman, 814 Ellis Ave., Wheaton.
17, Vermont (C)—Fellows Small Bore Tournament. Richard Wienka, Fellows Gear Shaper Rifle & Pistol Club, Springfield.
17, Pennsylvania (C)—Annual Philadelphia Area Midsummer Small Bore, Cold Point. W. H. Bahrenburg, 2006 E. Orleans St., Philadelphia.
17, California (C)—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol Tournament, Lake Merced. Emile J. Dutil. 324 16th Ave., San Francisco 18.
23-24, New York (B)—New York State Championship, Bethpage. Ed Moore, 87-27-257 St., Floral Park, Long Island.
24, Pennsylvania (C)—3rd Annual Mid-summer Small Bore Chmp., Locksley Station. Mary Jane Oster, 2800 Township Line, Llanerch.
30-31, West Virginia (B)—Mountain State Pistol Tournament. R. A. Simpson, 212 West 10th St., Parkersburg.
31, California (C)—77th St. Division Gun Club Creole Pistol Tournament. Miss Claire A. Bourelle, 2114 W. 84th St., Los Angeles 44.
31, Indiana (C)—4th Annual Lead Squirters Picnic. Mrs. Waunelia Heise, 316 Warren Bldg., Michigan City. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**
30-31-Sept. 1, Maine (C)—Ninth Annual Rifle & Pistol Matches. Verne R. Battese, Damariscotta.
31-Sept. 1, Ohio (B)—Small Bore Rifle, Mt. Gilead. E. N. Littleton, 424 Wallace Ave., Bowling Green.

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.22 Rimfire Burst Heads · Primer Reaction in Empty Cases · .45 Accuracy Job · .30-'06 Lead Bullet Loads · Likes the .220 Arrow Porta-Vise · Pigskin Covered Stocks · .30-06 CCC Accuracy · Springfield Safety Lugs 7.7 mm. Japanese Rifle · Trade Dope

.22 RIMFIRE BURST HEADS

Because of the shortage of ammunition our Junior Club has been scraping the bottom of the barrel to keep going. Somewhere down in the bottom of said barrel some high-speed stuff came up. The other night I was coaching one of the boys when one of these high-speed things blew out at the base, filling the boy's face and eye with hot gas and also neatly and completely disassembling the magazine clip.

I was watching the boy closely and know that the bolt was properly closed. Later examination showed that the rifle was in perfect working condition. The rifle was a U. S. Springfield 1922M1. I wonder what would have happened if that particular cartridge had been fired in some kid's ten-dollar plinking rifle.

Everyone knows this high-speed stuff is no good on the target range. Why doesn't its inaccuracy nullify its flatter trajectory in the game field? I wonder why they make it.—C. C. Robinson, Parsons, Kansas.

Answer: A few years ago, when some of the ammunition companies first went to noncorrosive primers, they used some pretty "hot" priming mixes and a burst head was not an uncommon thing in both high-velocity and match ammo. Since that time the loading companies have found better priming material and a burst head is rather rare. Once in a while faulty cartridge metal or some other cause may result in a burst head in any rimfire ammunition.

The construction of the rifles made by reputable concerns has offered enough protection to prevent serious eye injury to the shooter in every instance with which I am familiar. Nevertheless, no one likes burst heads as they are very disturbing and leave the ears ringing. Too, a damaged magazine clip almost always results. Wearing shooting glasses when firing any kind of a gun is advisable.

Ammunition companies should not do away with the high-speed .22 Long Rifle cartridge. The high-speed hollow point in this cartridge is fine for game, and beyond 100 yards some of it is almost as accurate as the match ammo. —E. B.

FLEXIBLE BARREL BANDS

C. V. Schmitt, 459 Sexton Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn., is making flexible barrel bands and they will be available for different-size barrels. He plans on making them in large quantities and later he will be in full production for his good reloading tools.

These barrel bands are made of special steel .010-inch thick with a special design of coupling and assembly. This design permits assembling the band on a barrel in back of a fixed front sight. Schmitt's bands are very similar to those we have been using successfully for years.—A. H. B.

PRIMER REACTION IN EMPTY CASES

I have recently purchased a reloading outfit and started loading a few S. & W. Specials. I resized, decapped, and recapped the cases but before putting the powder and bullet in I snapped a primed case in my new S. & W. The primer backed out of the case enough to lock the cylinder so it could not revolve. I tried several more and all did the same.

The caps, which were Winchester No. 108 small-pistol primers in Western and Remington cases, were seated perfectly. Please tell me if they are the wrong size? If so, what size should I use?—V. S. Moore, Sr., Norwood, Georgia.

Answer: Primers almost always blow partly out (as far as the clearance permits) when they are snapped with no powder in the cartridge case. The reason is that the powerful blast of the primer acts between the primer cup and the bottom of the primer pocket and drives the primer backward while it drives the case forward.

If there is a charge of powder in the case the pressure on the inside of the case will not allow the case to be driven forward and the primer cannot blow out.

When primed rifle cases are snapped without powder they are sometimes driven so far forward as to actually resize the shoulder of the cartridge case.

The primers that you have are o.k., so just go ahead and use them and don't worry any more about this.—J. S. H.

.45 ACCURACY JOB

One of the factors that can affect the accuracy of the .45 is the fit of the barrel bushing to the barrel and the slide. While some gunsmiths will make a new barrel bushing to fit closely, I believe that I have a simpler way.

I honed the inside of the bushing smooth and perfectly round and did the same to about ¼-inch of the barrel. Then I had the barrel bushing hard chrome plated. The plater applied some kind of lacquer to the parts of the bushing which I did not want plated and added just enough chrome to the outside so that it can be assembled by hand.

Then the end of the barrel was plated until it was a snug fit on the inside of the bushing. Care must be taken to have the bearing on the inside of the bushing plated also, because this chrome is hard and would soon wear out the barrel or bushing if they were not both plated.

I lapped the barrel to a close fit with the bushing and now have a very fine job. The whole job cost $3.30, which I believe is quite a bit cheaper than making a new barrel bushing.—C. H. Stahl, Toledo, Ohio.

.30-'06 LEAD BULLET LOADS

I am planning on reloading for the .30-'06 with lead bullets. Most of my shooting will be done on ground squirrels and jackrabbits. I imagine I will need a hollow-point mold, but am undecided which one to get. What mold would you recommend and also what powder and charges to use for the best accuracy? Is it possible to get around 2000 foot seconds with good accuracy?—C. D. Kelley, Bellflower, Calif.

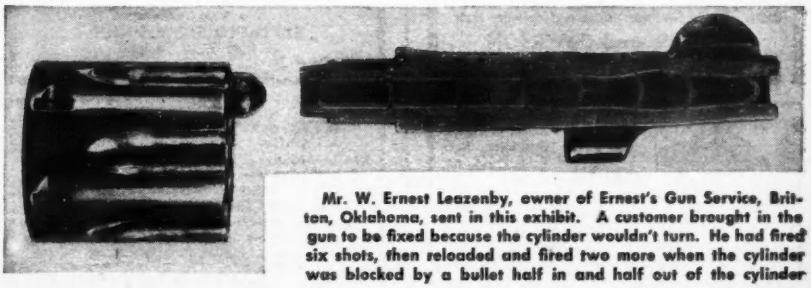
Answer: The best accuracy with lead bullets is obtained at 1700 to 1800 f.s. You can increase the velocity up to 2000 to 2200 f.s., but accuracy will then fall off considerably. Each individual rifle gives a different performance, so you must determine whether or not each rifle is accurate at the higher velocity. Possibly one of the best powders to use is Dupont No. 4759. Load 20 to 22 grains of it with a gas check lead bullet weighing around 169 to 170 grains. One of the best of the hollow-point type is the Bond-Loverin No. 311910 or the 311890. The latter bullet has worked very well using 21 to 23 grains Dupont No. 4198 or 24 to 25 grains No. 3031. These bullets are available from Ralph MacWilliams, 519 High St., Clinton, Massachusetts. The hollow-point mold is not normally furnished for the Bond bullets.—A. H. B.

LIKES THE .220 ARROW

Talmadge M. White, a varmint shooter, in order that he have a rifle that was not too temperamental, selected the .220 Wilson Arrow over the .220 Swift. Previously, when changing to different lots of powder or bullets, he found too much difference in point of impact of the .220 Swift.

With the .220 Arrow he loaded everything from 10 grains to 40 grains of No. 4064 with 50 grain 8S bullets and found all loads very accurate. Even with the Sisk wartime bullets two-inch groups were quite common at 200 yards.

Apparently the .220 Arrow outperformed the .22-250 when using the heavy 65 grain bullet. The Arrow, when zeroed at 200 yards, gave eight inches less drop at 500 yards than



Mr. W. Ernest Leazenby, owner of Ernest's Gun Service, Britton, Oklahoma, sent in this exhibit. A customer brought in the gun to be fixed because the cylinder wouldn't turn. He had fired six shots, then reloaded and fired two more when the cylinder was blocked by a bullet half in and half out of the cylinder

"PACIFIC" RELOADING TOOL
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FOR THE VARMINTEER—the new Woodchucker. Light, streamlined, 16" length, large 1.2" objective, dehorned mounts, 4X, 5.5X and 7X. Ideal for that new varmint rifle.

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the .22-250. At this distance the Arrow grouped 32.5 inches below aim. A .270 Winchester with the 100 grain factory load, zeroed on aim at 200 yards, gave an impact 38.50 inches low at 500 yards. At least one group with the Arrow was 2½ x 2¼ inches, just 34 inches below aim at 500 yards when zeroed one half inch below aim at 200 yards. One of the best loads for the .220 Arrow was 38.0 grains No. 4895 powder and the 55 grain WM-8S bullet. An entire 200- and 400-yard group measured only 4¾ x 5 inches with nine in 3½ x 5 inches.

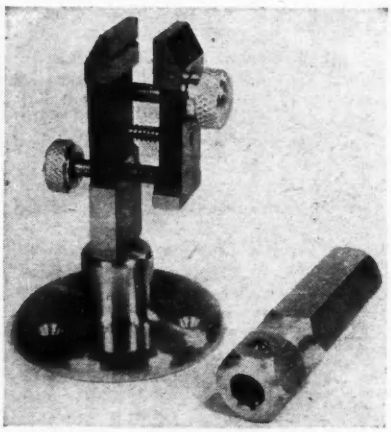
The actual impacts of the .220 Arrow when zeroed on aim at 250 yards are as follows. All groups were fired at measured ranges.

100 Yds.	Plus	1¾	Inches
200 "	"	1½	"
250 "	"	0	"
300 "	Minus	2½	"
400 "	"	8½	"
500 "	"	27½	"

The rifle used for these tests was a Winchester Model 70 with 24-inch barrel. The scope used was a Lyman Alaskan with Litschert attachment.—A. H. B.

PORTA-VISE

The Mil-Roy Mfg. Co., 3628 E. Slauson Ave., Maywood, Calif., is making a very nice-looking small pin vise, which is pictured here. There is a permanent base and an aluminum handle for convenient use when the base is not needed. The base permits swiveling the vise to any desired position. The entire outfit appears to be very well made with hardened vise jaws. The trade name is "Porta-Vise." It is a very small unit, but the workmanship is excellent.—A. H. B.



The Porta-Vise

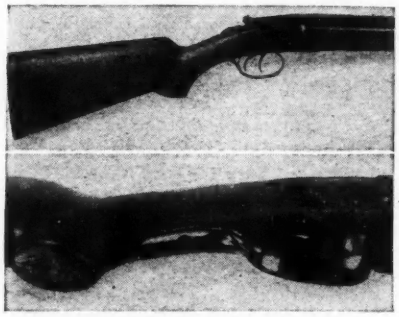
PIGSKIN COVERED STOCKS

Since leaving the government I have had time to put pigskin coverings on several more guns besides the one pictured on page 15 of January RIFLEMAN.

The process is essentially simple but quite exacting. It involves taking off wood equal to the thickness of the leather from all surfaces of the stock and, at the same time, making any desirable modifications in the shape of the stock. The real difficulty here, of course, is to adjust the surfacing so that the finished surface, where the leather meets steel, will be

flush. Suitable skins vary from about 3/32 inch to 1/8 inch in thickness.

When the stock is all ready, a suitable section of the skin is selected—the part right down the center of the back is the best and gives the nicest grain pattern—and cut roughly to shape. When wet, pigskin becomes pretty flexible and acquires some elasticity so that it can be stretched smoothly over the wood and even brought into continuous contact in undercuts. The cementing is done with a waterproof plastic glue such as Weldwood or Cascamite.



A pigskin-covered shotgun stock

Last year we had a pretty wet period during deer season and my pigskin-covered Model 70, pictured in the January issue, was out in the rain all day for four days, never getting a chance to really dry at night. The condition now is just as it was.—ROGER B. STEVENS, Gaines, Tioga County, Pennsylvania.

Roger B. Stevens, who apparently originated the pigskin-covered gunstock, indicates that as time permits he will cover stocks on a commercial basis. Because of the stock refinishing necessary before fitting the pigskin, the cost of the finished job runs reasonably high, or about $100.00. This includes selected pigskin. The two leather-covered stocks which we have seen are examples of excellent, patient workmanship.—A. H. B.

.30-'06 CCC ACCURACY

When the velocity of a bullet is stepped up we can expect a much flatter trajectory, but many times at a sacrifice in accuracy. Formerly we tried partially worn-out barrels that had been rechambered for the .270 CCC and .300 H. & H. CCC cartridges. While we obtained good trajectory figures, the accuracy of the stepped-up loads was not too impressive.

Not to be outdone, E. Baden Powell recently sent us his Model 70 Winchester bull gun, which had been rechambered for the .30-'06 Controlled-Combustion-Chambrage cartridge. The rifling had been cleared out forward of the chamber, thus making a full three-inch, free-bored barrel.

The rifle grouped very well with all loads. Using the Western Match 180 grain load we had 10-shot groups of 1.78 inches with nine shots in 1.36 inches. On another day the 10-shot group was 1.86 inches with nine in 1.15 inches. With a light load of 23 grains No. 4759, F.A. primers, and 172 grain M1 bullet we had a 10-shot group of 1.20 inches. With 47.0 grains No. 4064, F.A. primers, and M1 bullets the 100-yard 10-shot group made was 2.32 inches with nine shots in 1.30 inches.

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Using the heavy load of 58.0 grains No. 4064, Winchester 120 primers, and 180 grain Western boattail bullet the 10-shot groups were 2.40 inches with nine in 1.50 inches and 2.15 inches with nine in 1.70 inches. The actual drop of this load between 100 and 400 yards was 30.03 inches and the 400-yard groups for 10 shots measured 5.88 inches. The Western factory load grouped in 6.25 inches and the drop was 40.51 inches between 100 and 400 yards.

On the same day the service load with an M1 bullet in a 24-inch barrel dropped 40.51 inches between the two ranges. This means that the heavier .30-'06 CCC load gave just 10 inches less drop than the F.A. and Western factory loads. Therefore, the velocity must be quite high. These appeared to be perfectly safe loads on a rather warm day.

For comparison it was noted that on the same day the 70 grain Sisk bullet in a 30-inch barrel .228 Ackley Magnum, using 39.0 grains of du Pont No. 4064 powder, dropped 30.40 inches between 100 and 400 yards. These figures for drop are actual for the total drop below the line of bore and they have been figured to offset the difference in scope height for the different rifles.—A. H. B.

SPRINGFIELD SAFETY LUGS

I have a 1903A1 Springfield, serial number 1320657, and would like to know about the safety lugs on this rifle. This safety lug has a space of about 1/16 inch between it and the shoulder of the receiver when the bolt is closed. On the other style Springfield, I note that it is a close fit. I would appreciate it very much if you would give me the technical dope on these two models. I like this rifle very much but am a little worried about the way the safety lug is spaced.—Ernest L. Sundberg, Ishpeming, Michigan.

Answer: There should always be a clearance between the safety lug on the bolt of the Springfield and the wall of the receiver behind which this safety lug locks.

This clearance is necessary to permit the locking lugs on the bolt to bear evenly on their locking shoulders in the receiver without interference from the safety lug.

The clearance between the safety lug and the wall of the receiver should be not less than .01 inch and may run up to .1 inch. You will find that this varies considerably between different rifles as no effort is made to hold this clearance to a fixed figure.

The only purpose of the safety lug is to prevent the bolt from being blown out of the receiver in case the regular locking lugs are fractured. This, by the way, is an extremely rare occurrence.

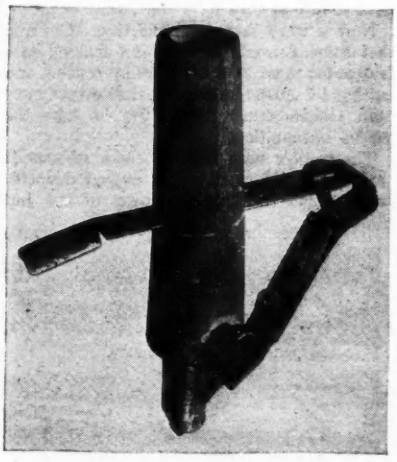
I have never known of a bolt to be blown out of a Springfield rifle because of the fracturing of the safety lugs. It just doesn't happen. I have known the regular lugs on the Springfield bolt to be broken off but the safety lugs always held the bolt in place.

You mentioned a difference in spacing of the safety lugs between the regular 1903 and the 1903A1. This is just a chance happening. The difference between the '03 and the '03A1 is in the pistol grip stock. The mechanism of the two rifles is supposed to be just the same. But, as I said above, the spacing on these safety lugs may vary considerably. On the average, however, it is no different on the A1 than on any other Springfield.

Just forget about this safety lug business and go ahead and use your Springfield rifle. You will have no trouble from this feature. —J. S. H.

HOMEMADE POWDER MEASURE

To show what can be done when a powder measure is needed, William B. Anderson sent us his homemade measure. It is rather crudely made, but it works very well. The material required to make the measure is a piece of wood (dowel rod), several small bolts, and a short piece of metal packing box strapping. This type of measure is best adapted to black powder or bulk smokeless loads, although it is reasonably accurate when measuring smokeless powder charges.—A. H. B.



A homemade powder measure

THE 7.7 MM. JAPANESE RIFLE

I would like information on the .31 caliber Jap Army rifles. Are they as a rule safe to fire with Jap ammo? Can you get ammo or have the fired cases reloaded? On the loads I have, is a light red mark around the base of the bullet. The gun seems new but the safety looks tricky and I don't see any safety vent except a groove in the bolt.—W. L. Otterson, Creal Springs, Illinois.

. . .

Why have you never mentioned rechambering the 7.7 mm. Jap rifle to .30-'06 in The Rifleman? There is only about .003-inch difference in the bore size of the two rifles, and when the 7.7 is loaded with the M2, 150 grain bullet in the .30-'06, one gets surprising accuracy. Moreover, with the .311-inch cast gas-check Ideal 311413 bullet you will get unbelievable accuracy if cast 1 to 15 and 15 grains of No. 4759 and the Remington 8½ primer are used in the cartridge.

The only trouble I find is that the magazine is a trifle short for most commercial ammunition, but Remington 180 grain cartridges work nicely. Of course, to the handloader this is no trouble at all, for we just seat our bullets a little deeper.

I have seen one-inch, 50-yard groups made with such a rifle, and have heard of one-inch groups at 100 yards. I would have to see the targets before I believe it.

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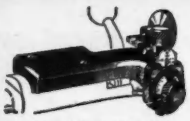

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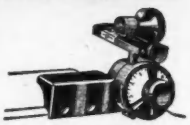

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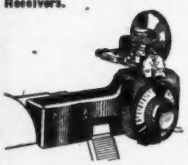

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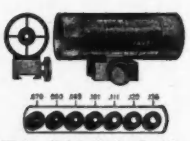

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I have a .22 Varminter on a Japanese 6.5 mm. action and I have no complaints on any count. It is stocked with curly maple with a beautiful grain.—AL BARSTEN, Daly City, California.

Answer: The Model 39 (1939) 7.7 mm. Jap rifle is really a .303 caliber. It is a good strong rifle and you need not be afraid to shoot it with the standard Japanese ammunition. Unfortunately that ammunition is not made in this country.

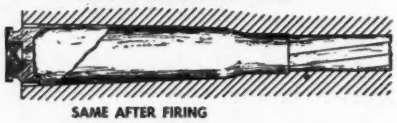
A pink band around the mouth of the case indicates ball ammunition, that is, the ordinary jacketed lead bullet; a black band, armor piercing; a green band, tracer; a reddish purple band, incendiary; and a bluish purple band, explosive bullet.

The safety on this rifle is quite satisfactory. You simply push it in and turn it to the right to make it safe. To make it ready to fire you push it in and turn it to the left.

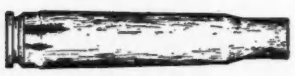
Now a word as to rechambering: it is true that some gunsmiths have been making cartridges for these .303 Jap rifles by resizing and cutting off .30-'06 cases, and that others have been rechambering these rifles to take the .30-'06 ammunition.

The trouble with both of these schemes is that the .30-'06 case has a rear end diameter smaller than the larger diameter of the Jap chamber.

.30-'06 IN RECHAMBERED 7.7MM.



SAME AFTER FIRING



GAS LEAKS IN CASE

When a .30-'06 case is fired in a 7.7 rifle, the brass of the case expands to fit the chamber except at the extreme rear end of the case where the solid metal of the head begins. This part, of course, cannot expand.

As a result there is a strain on the brass at the junction of the case walls with the head. If the cartridge case has any tendency to longitudinal splits due to laminations, strains, inclusions of foreign material, or any other defect in the metal, this tendency would be greatly increased by this stress in the metal. The situation will be better understood by referring to the accompanying sketch.

This first came to our attention when a case split while it was being used by one of our members in such a rechambered Jap rifle. We have since done some test firing in a rechambered 7.7 and have had no split cases. Thus the chances are that you can get away with this for a long time, but just the same it is an invitation to trouble. For that reason we have not felt justified in giving the practice our recommendation.

If, after reading the information given above, you still feel that you want to take a chance on firing the .30-'06 in a rechambered Jap rifle, be sure to wear your shooting glasses so that in case of a gas leak your eyes will be protected.—J. S. H.

CLEANING FIRED CASES

Here is a tip that might help someone who wants to clean fired cases. It works very well for cleaning .22 rim-fire cases, which are to be used for making R.C.B.S. jacketed bullets.

Add two heaping tablespoons full of ordinary table salt to one quart of vinegar. Let the cases soak in the solution for about five minutes. Then shake or stir them several times and let set until the cases are bright. Rinse in water and then rinse again in vinegar without salt, otherwise the cases will become dull and tarnished. Finish with a water rinse and then dry thoroughly.—ROBERT ELRICK, Petrolia, Pa.

LOADS FOR THE MASHBURN ZIPPER

Mr. J. Kleine of Canton, Ohio, informs us that the following loads have been suggested as a starting point by A. E. Mashburn for his version of the Improved Zipper.

Bullet	*Powder*	*Grains Weight*
45-grs.	No. 3031	30 or 31 grs.
50 "	" "	29 or 30 "
55 "	" "	28 or 29 "
45 "	" 4064 or 4320	30 or 31 "
50 "	" " " "	28 or 29 "
55 "	" " " "	27 or 28 "
63 "	" 4350	32 "

The above loads seem to be on the light side, particularly for No. 4064 or 4320 powders. In one version of the Improved Zipper made by Hervey Lovell, the best safe loads were 32.0 grains No. 3031 with the 55 grain Sisk Express and 33.0 grains No. 4320 with the 63 grain bullet. The exact load depends almost entirely on how much the case has been expanded near the shoulder.—A. H. B.

SLOT IN MAUSER COCKING PIECE

I have a question, not from mechanical difficulties, but because of plain down-to-earth noseyness. What is or was the purpose of the slot cut in the right-hand side of the cocking piece of the Mauser Model 98? This slot looks somewhat like a keyway with which we are all familiar but I doubt if it serves the same purpose.—ROBERT F. MACKINNON, Bayonne, New Jersey.

Answer: I've been looking at that slot in the Mauser cocking piece for the last 25 years without seeing it or giving it a thought. On receipt of your question I asked Captain Philip B. Sharpe, formerly a member of an Ordnance Intelligence team in Europe, if he knew the answer. He said, "That cocking piece slot is a fine piece of milling but a questionable piece of German logic though its use is simple. Try it with one of your sample guns as follows: Since this is a 'headless'-type cocking piece, drop the striker, insert the rim of a live round in the slot, bullet to the rear, and pinch the cartridge tightly against the cocking piece with the thumb and finger. Then pull to the rear; it cocks nicely.

"Play with it a few times. Then try raising the bolt handle. It is easier. You'll probably adopt the latter method."

From Phil's answer above, it is easy to see that this slot is intended as the means for cocking the firing pin on the Mauser in case of misfires, when it is desired to strike the primer again but would be dangerous to cock by lifting the bolt handle.—J. S. H.

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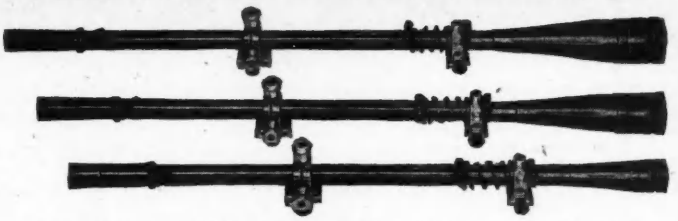

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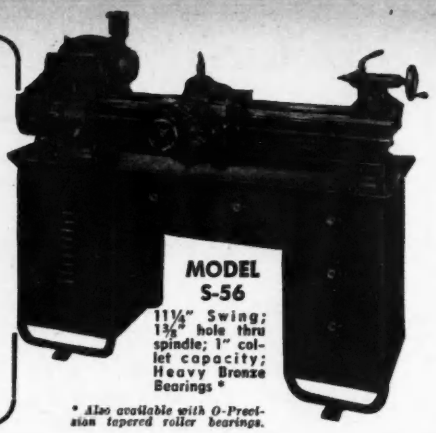

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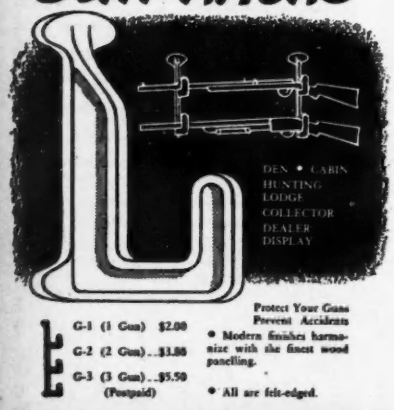

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CHECKERING TOOLS

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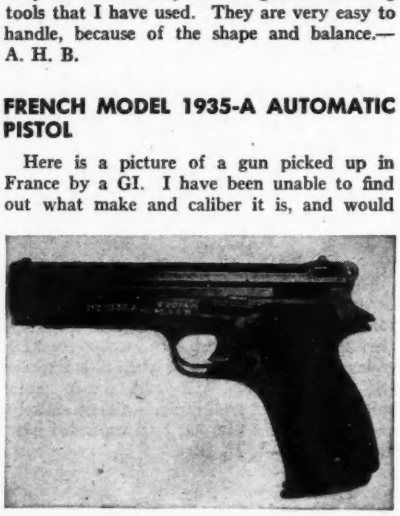
The standard set consists of a "V" tool for laying out the work, spacers of 18 and 20 lines to the inch, one border tool, and a bent file for finishing. All tools, except the bent file, are made in his own shop.

These checkering tools are neat, well-shaped, and well made of the best file steel obtainable. They are heat-treated for longer life and must be annealed before resharpening. I like them fully as well as any of the good checkering tools that I have used. They are very easy to handle, because of the shape and balance.—A. H. B.

FRENCH MODEL 1935-A AUTOMATIC PISTOL

Here is a picture of a gun picked up in France by a GI. I have been unable to find out what make and caliber it is, and would



French Model 1935-A Automatic Pistol

appreciate very much if you would identify it for me.—FRANK J. MEDEMA, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Answer: Your gun is the French Model 1935-A, one of several French service pistols in use in World War II. This gun weighs about 26 oz., has a barrel length of 4 1/3 inches and an over-all length of about 7 3/8 inches. The magazine holds 8 cartridges. This pistol is a modification of the Browning system which was evolved at the plant of the Manufacture D'Armes St. Etienne.

It uses a special cartridge known as the 7.65 mm. Long. No other cartridge will fit this pistol and this cartridge will not fit any other pistol. This special cartridge is almost identical in dimensions with the cartridge designed by Mr. J. D. Pedersen in 1917 for use in his Pedersen Device, one of the top secret weapons of World War I.

A very peculiar thing about the gun is the black enamel finish. The gun looks very much as though it had been painted with automobile paint. This enamel finish is easy to scar and scratch but it is almost impossible to remove from the metal by any method short of actually scraping and sanding it off. There is no solvent we have ever tried which seems to have any effect on it.

This seems to be a very satisfactory and well-made pistol, but the caliber, which is actually .301, seems a bit small for a military automatic.—J. S. H.

HIGH VELOCITY BULLETS

Ralph T. Davis, 327 S. Georgia Ave., Hynes, Calif., is in the bullet-making business. We have tried only his 100-grain .25-caliber bullets, but these have worked very well in several .25 caliber magnum rifles, where the bullets must be well made to produce good accuracy.

These bullets were made from hard drawn copper tubing at least .032 inch thick. They are made especially to withstand high velocity, but it is too early yet to tell how well they will expand. An 87 grain .25 caliber bullet has been chronographed at 4200 feet per second.

We do know that the 100 grain in .25 caliber is as accurate as any other make in our rifles. In one rifle the 100-yard group measured 1.12 inches and a 200-yard group measured 2.21 inches.—A. H. B.

ANOTHER RAPID STOCK FINISH

On page 50 of the May issue of the RIFLEMAN is a tip on stock finishing by Alfred Liertz, Lake Charles. It is a good "tip" and it works!

May I pass along an even shorter way of doing it?

When the wood is ready . . . all the whiskers sanded away . . . take White Shellac and "any good machine oil" (I have used anything from 3-in-1 oil to engine oil) on a soft cloth and start polishing. Go easy on the amount of shellac or it will start to "pile up." Rubbing causes the shellac to dry somewhat and form a hard to semihard surface for polishing. After you feel satisfied with the polish, go after it with the palm of your hand and rub any extra oil away. Not a bad finish. —HENRY FLANNERY, San Francisco, California.

GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

The Kenfix Company, 3706 Florida Avenue, Tampa, Florida, has a very neat, well-equipped precision machine shop. We paid a visit to this shop during the Midwinter Matches at Tampa, and were very favorably impressed.

The company will undertake almost any kind of gunsmithing, including stocking, barrel fitting, and chambering. The shop is operated by Walter K. Seitz, formerly a Captain in the Ordnance Department.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eldon Cornett, Box 248, New Haven, Michigan, sent us some scope caps made of Plexi-Glass. Being transparent, these covers can be left on the scope without interference with aiming.

The lenses on a rifle scope are difficult to clean, as they are set in beyond the end of the tube and thus cannot be easily reached. On the other hand these covers are quite easy to clean. If they are kept on the scope, the lenses themselves will seldom have to be cleaned. The caps also afford excellent protection to coated lenses.

If the two covers were coupled together with a piece of elastic, the idea would be even more practical.

☆ ☆ ☆

Correction—Otto Neubrand's address is 311 Oak Street, Buffalo 3, New York—not Cleveland, Ohio, as we indicated in the May Trade Dope column.

—NATIONAL MATCHES—

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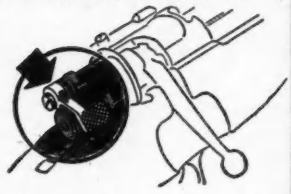

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Target shooters are spared the inconvenience of removing and reapplying dust caps when practicing dry firing.
POT-SHOT dust caps are clear as crystal and more transparent than glass. They are optically corrected to within one-half (½) minute of angle and are unaffected by water, salt, perspiration, mineral or animal oils, battery acid, etc. A minimum of care required.
POT-SHOT precision installation in your metal dust caps, $4.00. Varmint attachments (1 pc.), $2.50. Complete rubber slip-on models for all popular hunting scopes, $2.50 per set.

BARBE & KNIGHT ENGINEERING CO.
BARNESVILLE OHIO

W. M. Perry, 1609 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina, writes that he will make up black-powder loads for Damascus or laminated shotgun barrels. When new primed empty shells are furnished or are available the cost is $2.25 per box of twenty-five shells.

Mr. Perry states that if primed shells are not available, it costs him approximately 5¢ per shell to recondition or reprime them; accordingly he charges $3.00 per box for his reloads if the empty primed shells are not furnished.

☆ ☆ ☆

The G & M Industries, 213 Lorenz Ave., Dayton 7, Ohio, make single-set triggers for the Krag, Model 70, and Enfield rifles. These triggers will be made for other actions later on. They can be installed by a competent gunsmith, otherwise the trigger guard and stock should be sent to the manufacturers for the fitting job.

☆ ☆ ☆

James E. Moon, 782 Amsterdam Ave., New York, N. Y., after a long spell in the hospital, now plans to handle his regular trade again as items become available. Mr. Moon is known for his extensive experiments to find the best oil and grease for lubrication and rust prevention. He has already developed at least one very good product called Moon Sleek.

☆ ☆ ☆

Richards Sports Store of Prescott, Arizona, is prepared to manufacture and install the Bowen mount described in the article "The Ears Have It" on page 23 of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN for April, 1947.

This work will be done under the supervision of Gunsmith Fred Wells.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Mershon Co., Inc., Glendale, Calif., makes a "Sure Grip" belt shell pack. Made of high-quality rubber, it is slotted in the back for use on any belt up to two inches wide. The pack holds ten cartridges of any size from .25 to .35 caliber. It will also hold the larger size .22 cartridge like the .220 Swift. Being made of rubber, thus gripping the cartridges firmly, there is no chance of the shells rattling or being lost, yet they are instantly available.

Other items in stock are the "White Line" and "Blue Line" recoil pads, and those excellent "No-Slip" buttplates.

☆ ☆ ☆

Fred T. Huntington, the R.C.B.S. bullet swage man, can now furnish the improved bullet core swages like those used by H. A. Donaldson and Samuel Clark, Jr. The new swage was mentioned also in the book by C. S. Landis on .22 caliber varmint rifles.

A new-type lead wire cutter is being made by Huntington, or the old type will be revamped for a normal charge. Other items available are special dies for making double jacketed bullets. Huntington can also supply new unheaded factory .22 caliber cases, which are preferable to the fired .22 shells for making .22 caliber bullets.

☆ ☆ ☆

Gordon Whiting, River Road, Three Bridges, N. J., has recently opened a gunsmithing shop and writes that he will specialize in repairs for antique firearms. Another specialty will be gun rebluing. The usual accessories such as scopes and shooters' supplies will be available.

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Rate: 20 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. All advertisements must be accompanied by remittance, made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C.

2. Closing Date: All advertisements must be received by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: the 1st of July for the August issue. Ads *received* after the 1st of July *and not later than the 1st of August* will be inserted in the September issue.)

3. Who May Advertise: Any individual or firm whose advertisements and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services in the ARMS CHEST.

4. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: WE reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

5. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, when brought to our attention, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA in the case of members.

6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Box number or blind ads will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

7. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters likewise are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H. B., meaning heavy barrel; HP., meaning high-power). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (examples: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

8. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print advertisements plainly, as we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

9. Firearms for Sale or Trade Must Be Properly Described: The *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, *must* be specified according to *NRA standards*, as follows: PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition; implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

10. Definite Prices Must Be Stated: A specific price must be stated on all items offered in FOR SALE and SELL or TRADE ads—except that the phrase "write for catalog" or "write for price list" may be used when listing merchandise in quantities.

11. Non-Specific Phrases Barred: Phrases such as "highest" or "top prices paid," as well as any other so-called "auction-type" phrases are not acceptable. The terms "fair price paid" or "state price wanted" may be used.

12. Requesting Privilege of Examination: We *insist* that purchasers desirous of examining merchandise before acceptance request shipment by express C. O. D. with examination privilege. This procedure permits the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

13. "Outlawed" Firearms Cannot Be Sold: Federal statutes forbid the sale or trade of all machine or submachine guns; sawed-off rifles and shotguns with barrels of less than 18" and Mauser and Luger auto pistols *with holster stocks*—except by a Federally licensed dealer who has paid the special tax required by Section 3260, Internal Revenue Code.

FOR SALE

LARGE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND European antique arms. Send 25¢ in coin for our 15th edition catalog featuring the Brown collection of Kentucky rifles. We buy whole collections or single pieces. Fair prices paid. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

2R LOVELL, MAUSER ACTION, EXCELLENT throughout, $85.00. 30-06 Mannlicher, all metal excellent, stock good, $125.00. Both prewar. 35 Ackley Magnum barrel for Springfield $19.00. Robert S. Wade, 1062 West Hollywood Ave., Chicago 40.

ILLUSTRATED 174 PAGE CATALOG OF ANtique firearms and edged weapons 50¢. Robert Abels, R860 Lexington Ave., New York 21. 1-48

REMINGTON, BOLT ACTION, TARGET RIFLES, model 513TR, .22 caliber brand new, $53.50. Remington Gamemaster model 141 pump action rifles, caliber 35, brand new, $95.60. Remington, model 81A Woodmaster, 35 caliber auto-loading rifles, brand new, $120.00. H&R Reising, .22 caliber model 65 auto-loading rifle, brand new, $57.50. Japanese Military rifles 31 or 25 caliber as issued, excellent condition, $20.00 each. German 8mm. military rifles World War #2 as issued, model 98, excellent condition, $39.50. Remington, model 11A Sportsman, 12 and 16 gauge, brand new, $94.00. Savage, model 720, 12 gauge autoloading shotguns, brand new, $89.50. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. All merchandise ready for immediate shipment. Send coin 25¢ for new list of guns, binoculars and powder flasks available for immediate shipment. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R75, 13 So. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

USE THE NEW GAS PROOF GUN WAD FOR mild recoil, close even pattern, unusually long range, $4.00 per M. Packed in 1000 lots, 500—⅛", 250—⅛C, 250 thin C, send remittance. E. G. Snyder, Rt. #2, Reading, Penna. tf

U. S. MILITARY FIREARMS, 1776-1946. BASIC book for collectors, illustrated by 88 full page plates, price $6.00. James Hicks, 428 Rich, Mount Vernon, N. Y. 12-47

CASWELL TARGET CARRIERS GIVE THE shooter every possible point because they hold the target steady and require no exertion to operate. Fully equipped with speedy ball-bearing pully wheels and target holders for every type of indoor paper rifle or pistol targets. Caswell Target Carriers, Anoka, Minnesota. tf

RELOADING LUBRICANTS: IPCO COLLOIDAL graphite ribbon wads $1.00 box; IPCO bullet lubricant $1.00 box. Special discount to dealers. Industrial Products Co., W. W. Perkins, Prop., Box 14, Wakefield, Mass. tf

$35.00 USED GOVERNMENT TELESCOPE 30 power. Good condition. Weil's Curiosity Shop, 12 Strawberry St., Philadelphia 6, Penna.

SPORTS INVENTIONS: FISHING, HUNTING or other sports inventions, patented or unpatented, can now be safely pre-tested for commercial value. Complete information free. Institute of American Inventors, Dept. 131, 1926 Eye Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. tf

SPECIAL GUN-SMITH SCREW DRIVERS, SET of 9 spring-steel drivers ⅛x2" to 5/16x10" blades. Guaranteed not to chip, gun grip handles. Shipped to any member on approval, $4.50 postpaid. E. C. Grace, Elk Rapids, Michigan. tf

COLT DRAGOONS, COLT 1855 REVOLVING rifles, flintlock Kentucky and squirrel rifles. Price list 10¢ stamps. E. C. Ward, 604 No. Verdugo Road, Glendale, California. 7-47

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLIES: NIPPLES FOR rifles, shotguns, pistols and muskets 25¢ each, 5 for $1.00. Stainless steel nipples ¼-28, small opening at top, 3 for $1.00; send old nipple that is to be duplicated. Flints for pistols and rifles $1.00 per dozen. Percussion caps 1000 for $3.40 FOB. Black powder, 6¼ lb. can $4.00; 25# can $12.50 FOB freight only. Several fine match rifles, $60.00 to $175.00; flintlock rifles $75.00 to $100.00. Squirrel rifles in .32 to .38 caliber $35.00 to $75.00. Hickory ramrods, .38, .40, .42, $1.00; .48 caliber $1.25. Plastic adjustable black powder measure, funnel $3.25; every shooter of frontier guns needs one of these. Nipple wrenches for rifle, pistol or musket 75¢. Round ball moulds, wood handles, sprue cutters at $6.00 up to .50 caliber; $6.50 for larger sizes. Main spring vise 75¢. New .375 caliber slow pitch barrels, with drum and nipple $17.00. Drum, nipple and clean-out screw combination 75¢. Send old outfit to be duplicated. 17A sights $3.00; 57E for M75 Winchester $6.00; Redfield 70M for Mausers $8.50; Redfield 65 front $3.50. Farris & Son, Portsmouth, Ohio. tf

CANADA'S LARGEST GUN LIST OFFERING singles, doubles, over and under, combination guns. 25¢ in coin. Modern Gun Shop, 3006 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. 9-47

COLT .45 CALIBER MODEL 1917 REVOLVER cylinders, brand new, $3.50 each. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. Send coin 25¢ for new list of guns, binoculars and powder flasks available for immediate shipment. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R75, 13 So. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

ELECTRIC PENCIL: WRITES, ENGRAVES ALL metals. $1.00 postpaid. Beyer Mfgr., 229-Z Dixson Blvd., Uniontown, Penna. 12-47

BULLETS—30 CALIBER 172 GRAIN 9° BOATtail M1 $30.00 per thousand FOB San Bruno. No orders less than one thousand. J. W. McPhillips, 285 Mastick Avenue, San Bruno, California. tf

SHOTGUN CASES FOR AUTOMATICS AND double barrels, takedown model made of heavy duck with leather handle and heavy leather re-inforcements a wonderful value at $2.95. When ordering state model and barrel length. Goodwear Sporting Goods Company, 177 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. 7-47

COLT DRAGOON PISTOLS. THE STORY COLlectors wanted! Second of the Serven-Metzger series, this monograph is packed full of photographs and facts beginning with the Whitneyville-Walker pistols of 1847. Describes all the models, contains much important and entertaining data heretofore unpublished, and pictures many of the finest pistols known. Contains 56 pages, 74 plates, size 8¼ x 12. Information given on accessories alone is worth the cost, $3.00 postpaid. Carl Metzger, Publisher, 2305 Canton St., Dallas 1, Texas. tf

220 SWIFT, WINCHESTER 70 TARGET GRADE, Unertl 2" target 10 power scope mounted, both perfect, 10 box cartridges, $325.00. Harold Hemmelgarn, R.R. #1, Box 105, Maria Stein, Ohio. 7-47

8MM. RIMLESS MAUSER CARTRIDGES 150-170-190 gr. bullets $3.00 for 20. 8mm. primed cases 6¢ each, all new brass. Loading tools, bullets, expert remodeling of military rifles. T. G. Crain, 919 Millville Road, Altoona, Penna. tf

What about Your Hunting Equipment?

If you are planning the purchase of any new guns, scopes or other equipment for the fall hunting season, we suggest you make an early selection—for many such items are still in short supply.

Please also bear in mind that your gunsmith is now in a much better position to give you prompt service on gun and scope repairs or rebluing, than he will be later on in the season.

And if you have any extra deer rifles, duck guns or other excess hunting supplies, we strongly urge you make them available to other members, through an ad in the September "Arms Chest"!

Your "copy" instructions for the September issue must reach us positively not later than August 1st.

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America's Supreme Gun-Bluing Process

GUNSMITHS!

The gun owners of your communities . . . in country . . . town . . . or city . . . deserve . . . and *will get* . . . the finest of all gun finishes . . . *BLU-BLAK.*

A BLU-BLAK FRANCHISE can be your most valuable business asset. The Blu-Blak Franchise for your community may still be available—DECIDE NOW to make it *your* franchise. It's a proven business builder.

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A Remarkable Formula that will blue more guns, perfectly, than you ever imagined:

30 lbs. *BLU-BLAK* plus 10 lbs. DENSITE . . . will make nearly 5 gal. solution $20.00

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PREKLEEN, to make to 20 gals. cleaner 1.00

"RIO" FINISHING OIL . . . rust-inhibiting, 1 gal., $3.50; 5 gals..... 15.00

BUFFING COMPOUNDS . . . greaseless . . . finest quality. 150/coarse; 240/medium; 450/fine; 550/extra fine. 2¼-lb. tubes, each $1. Dozen lots @ each ..... .90

FELT BUFFING WHEELS . . . white . . . best made.

6" x 1" x ½"		8" x 1" x ½"	
Soft	$3.00	Soft	$4.50
Medium	4.00	Medium	6.00
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MUSLIN BUFFING WHEELS . . . We may have them by time you read this. Prices later.

THERMOMETER . . . with nickel-silver support $1.75

RUBBER GLOVES . . . finest quality, seamless, 14" long, 10½ & 11 only, bargain at 1.25

APRONS . . . tough plastic, black . . . saves clothes . . . a necessity . . . only 3.50

FACE SHIELDS . . . clear, heavy plastic . . . gives full protection face and eyes. Are your eyes worth..... 2.25

PeeDeeQ . . . Removes rust & old-blue . . . fast; rebluing accelerator for case-hardened parts. Don't miss this. 1 pint makes 3 to 5 pints..... 1.00

IMPERVIUM . . . liquid plastic gunskin . . . brush on . . . dries elastic skintight . . . gives perfect protection lay-away or transit. Peels off.....Pt. 3.00

SUPERBA STOCK FINISH . . . NEW . . . different . . . saves time & labor . . . you'll love it.....Pt. 3.00

GUNSMITHS . . . ask for our treatise on gunbluing . . . including Business-Building information . . . FREE.

YOURS can be the gun-bluing shop of your community . . . if you ACT NOW! To delay is risky . . . if you are too late, don't blame me.

YES . . . ***BLU-BLAK*** Shops Are the *Busy* Shops.

The Best Gunshops in America are joining the "Circle of BLU-BLAK Enthusiasts."

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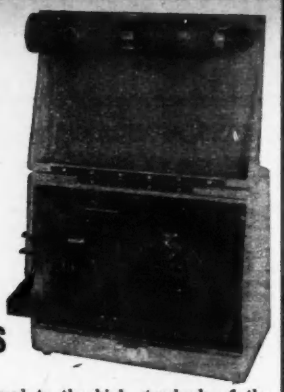
KIT 38



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Manufactured to the high standards of the discriminating pistol shooter, KIT 38 is meeting with instant approval. Available in various colors and fabrics. Full protection for your fine guns ..... $31.25 5-gun and Utility Models Available. Write for circular—kits postpaid.

NEW ITEMS

SATURN "SCOUT" 20X precision spotting scope 42mm lens..... $25.00
VECTRA rifle telescope, brilliant, sharp wide field, non-critical eye-relief. 22mm tube, streamlined for low mounting, with quick positive adjustments. 2½X..... $29.95
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A REAL BUY!

FULL LATIGO LEATHER rifle cases for rifles and shotguns, wool pile lined with protective area over action, guns with scopes $11.00
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Cedar Cartridge Blocks, 50 and Box... 2.50

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LEUPOLD-STEVENS 2½X.....$50.00
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WISLER WESTERN TARGETS

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K-T SCOPE STANDS

$16.00 Postpaid

Keep the Range Officer off your neck! And your eye on the wind.

RIGHT ANGLE—NO BRACES IN THE WAY.
FAST, SIMPLE ADJUSTMENT.
LIGHT—STRONG—NO VIBRATION.
BAKED CRACKLE FINISH.
WILL NOT TIP ON SLOPING FIRING POINT.

Loosen only one thumbscrew, then fold stem and legs to pack scope and stand.

(Order for right- or left-hand shooter.)

H. H. Kirby & C. B. Thorington
Box 392 South Gate, California

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36 MAUSER ACTION A GOOD ONE, $34.00. Mauser guard screws short or long 50¢. Any quantity available. Will discount large orders. C. R. Provost, 112 Charles, St. Paul, Minnesota.

AMMUNITION ONLY. THAT'S ALL I SELL. This means a large stock and fast service. 9mm. Flobert, ball Rem-UMC rimfire 100 for $1.00; 45-70-500 smokeless, UMC, box 20, $1.75, 100 for $8.25; 45-70-405 black powder, Arsenal make, 50 for $4.00; 50 and 56 caliber Spencers, rimfire, 50 for $5.50. Following is all new stock. .22 long rifle, high velocity, Peters, box 50, 50¢; .22 WRF, hollow point, Western Super X, 100 for $1.95; 25-20 Winchester, 86 gr. soft point, 50 for $3.00; 25-35 Winchester, express, 117 gr. soft point, 20 for $1.95; 250 Savage, 100 gr. soft point, Kleanbore, 20 for $2.20; 270 Winchester, 170 gr. soft point, 20 for $2.60; 30-30 Winchester, Savage, 170 gr. soft point, 20 for $2.00; 303 Savage, Kleanbore, 180 gr. soft point, 20 for $2.15; 30-40 Krag, Western, 180 gr. soft point, 20 for $2.60; 32-20 Winchester, 115 gr. soft point, 50 for $3.25; 32 short rimfire, Kleanbore, 100 for $2.05; 357 Magnum, Western, 158 gr. metal patch, 50 for $2.85; 44-40 Winchester, express, Kleanbore, 200 gr. soft point, 50 for $3.50; 45 automatic, Winchester, full patch, 230 gr. 50 for $3.55; 9mm. long shot, Winchester, rimfire, 50 for $3.00. 12-16-20 ga. shot shells, most brands, fresh stock, $2.00 box of 25. Immediate delivery, Kindly send money orders, sorry, no C.O.D.'s. Philip Jay Medicus, 18 Fletcher St., N. Y. 7, N. Y. Life Member.

RELOADS, 8MM. 170 GR. SP. 16¢. '06 AND 30 carbine, lead, MC, HP, SP 4 to 12¢. Others, send for price list. (see wanted column). Warwick Gun Shop, Denbigh, Virginia.

PRICE LIST OF 75 AUTOMATIC PISTOLS FOR sale for stamped self addressed envelope, also 100 assorted automatic pistol magazine clips. S. Aberman, 405 Law & Finance Bldg., Pittsburgh 19, Penna.

.45-70-500 SMOKELESS CARTRIDGES, $1.74 PER box, $8.00 per 100. Headless shell extractor for the Springfield rifle & carbine, 75¢. Rubber slipon recoil pads, for rifle or shotgun 90¢. Dept. R, Bolin's Gun Shop, 9 Grand St., South Amboy, N. J. tf

ALWAYS A GOOD STOCK OF COLLECTOR'S arms and visitors always welcome. House of Guns, 34 Alpine Place, Kearny, N. J. tf

600 ANTIQUE GUN BARGAINS. CATALOG 25¢. Gil Hebard, Box 487 F, Knoxville, Illinois. 11-47

SHOTGUN SHELLS, HI-POWER CENTER FIRE, .22 match and regular ammunition by the box or case. List 10¢. Rudolph's, Atchison, Kansas. 7-47

HARD-TO-FIND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES for caplock arms, 45-70 Springfields, etc. New list #23 mailed on receipt large addressed envelope. Don't miss our exclusive Lyman double mould casting .36/.44 Conical Colt balls. James Serven, Santa Ana, Calif. tf

DEALER & COLLECTOR: ILLUSTRATED World-Wide Firearms Magazine, $1.00 yearly, postpaid anywhere. Dealer & Collector, Box 71CA, Flushing, New York. tf

OUR LIST OF MODERN ARMS WILL BE SENT on receipt of three cent stamp. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

RIFLE SLINGS LEATHER. U. S. ARMY 1¼" used, good condition, $1.00 each. Grimes rifle or shotgun slings, top grain, russet cowhide, adjustable to any shotgun or rifle, furnished in ⅜"—$1.50—1¼" widths, $1.95 each, brand new. Rifle sling swivels, quick detachable 1¼" only, $1.25 per pair. Used .45 Colt automatic pistol magazines, $1.75 each, good condition. Taylor precision fishermans barometer, pocket size, $7.50 each. Rifle and shotgun section metal cleaning rods precision quality, all calibers and gauges, $1.50 each, brushes 25¢ extra. Hoppes gun cleaning pack, consists of oil, nitro-solvent, gun grease and cleaning patches $1.25. Recoil boot, prewar rubber, U. S. Army slip-on style, for shotgun or rifle, $1.00 each. Duck and Crow calls $1.50 each, Hawks calls $2.00 each, all treated against tone change. Gent's one inch hand carved all leather western belt, tan, all sizes, $1.50 each. Genuine G.I. heavy canvas leggings with brass eyelets, large, medium and small sizes, $1.50 per pair. Holster for Luger automatic pistol with 8" barrel, saddle leather, brand new, $5.00 each. Tan leather belt holsters for revolver or automatic pistol, and size, with flap $3.00, without flap, $2.50. Shoulder holsters, all leather, $4.95 each. Give barrel length and name of gun for all holsters. Send coin 10¢ for list of sportsmen's supplies available for immediate shipment. Sportsmen's Supplies, 250 West Bayberry Lane, Upper Darby, Penna.

FOR SALE Screw Cutting Lathe, rebuilt, excellent condition. 13" swing; new 10" 4-jaw chuck; motor; 3-jaw chuck; steady & follower rests . . . $500. F.O.B. Bennett Gun Works, Delmar, New York.

MODERN GUNS FOR SALE. SEND STAMP. No list. Robert Pease, Washington St., Meadville, Penna.

HOBBY, NO STORE. BINOCULARS, TELEscopes, watches, guns, diamonds. Nice supply. Buy, sell, trade. Member. Paul Schweer, Donnellson, Iowa. 7-47

MODEL 70 WINCHESTER 30-06, STANDARD grade, standard open sights, white line pad, q.d's sling, 60 rounds, perfect condition, $120.00. Springfield sporter, Lyman 48 rear, blade front, custom checkered stock, white line pad, 20 rounds, excellent, $85.00. Thomas Nelson, 11 West Walnut Street, Alexandria, Virginia.

ONE 8MM. FULL MANNLICHER-MAUSER, 4X Zeiss scope, set trigger, $245.00. One 8mm. half length Mannlicher-Schoenauer 4X scope, 50 rounds, $205.00. One Star gauge Springfield sporter Lyman, Circassian wood, all excellent, $200.00. For trade 11mm. set trigger 4 power scope, 50 rounds 500 Nitro Express double barrel bottom break, both excellent. Want Mauser 7mm. or? C. Kamper, R#3, Box 65A, Littleton, Colorado.

COLLECTORS ITEMS, 1811 FLINTLOCK MUSket marked Sutton, v.g., $50.00. S&W New Departure third model, excellent, $50.00. 1917 model flare pistol 4 gauge 7" barrel, good, $15.00. Spencer repeating shotgun two barrels, good, $50.00. Spanish Star 9mm. look like Colt Army, excellent, $35.00. Fred Moats, Courthouse, Warren, Ohio.

FRANCOTTE, GRADE 14, 20 GA. SST, BEAVERtail, two sets 28" barrels, IC&M and M&F, 2¾" chambers, 5¾ lbs. straight grip, fitted trunk case, prewar importation, excellent to perfect, $635.00. Crown grade L.C. Smith, 12 ga. SST, Beavertail, 30" barrels, M&F, pistol grip, excellent to perfect, $365.00. Dr. R. J. Ackart, 6315 Blackburn Court, Baltimore 12, Maryland.

ALL POINTER ORIGINAL PLASTIC PISTOL grips, list; Savage NRA target .22, 29S Weaver, accurate, good, $38.00; Remington M11, 12 ga. 28" full and 26" I.C., good, $67.50; Colt .22 Official Police, 6", laced holster, excellent, $67.50; R. S. Elliot Thunderbolt Flyrod, 8', 4½ oz., new, $35.00; Meisselbach automatic reel, good, Martin, fair, both $10.00; Weaver 29S, Litschert attachment, v.g., $22.50. 500 .32RF shorts, $10.00. Want M270, M52, M37, M63, Browning O.U., automatic 16-20 ga. Write Herman Schulz, El Reno, Oklahoma.

WINCHESTER 52 HB, PERFECT IN, EXCELlent out, $75.00. P.38 holster, extra clip, good, $35.00. Manuel Wolf, New Albany, Indiana.

REVOLVERS, MINERALS, STAMPS, COINS, glass, Indian relics, catalog 5¢. Cowboy Lemley, Las Cruces, New Mexico. tf

AMMUNITION—NEW AND USED SHOTGUNS, rifles, revolvers, pistols, fishing tackle, list 10¢. Dept. N.R., Rudolphs, Atchison, Kansas. 12-47

SHOOTERS—EXPERIENCED OR BEGINNER, keep your targets neat and tidy; patch the holes with Razorback Kurve-Kut target pasters; 500 pasters to the roll in handy dispenser box; Black-White-Buff, Ask your dealer or write direct to Razorback Target Pasters, Rt. #2, Fayetteville, Arkansas. tf

MALLARD BLUE BILL, BLACK DUCK, RED head and canvas back decoys life size lightweight, Kapok fiber covered, very durable, resembles actual live duck, value $25.00 per dozen, special $11.00 dozen. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. Send coin 25¢ for new list of guns, binoculars and powder flasks available for immediate shipment. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R75, 13 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

BROOKLYN SPORTSMEN SHOP AT THE GOOD wear sporting goods co., complete stock of guns & accessories, fishing tackle, archery, etc. 177 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. 8-47

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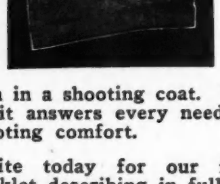

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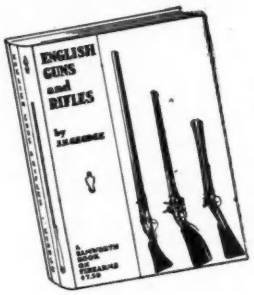

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The new work is an account of the development, design and usage of English Sporting Rifles and Shotguns, from their introduction during the 15th Century until the use of the metallic cartridge in the 19th Century. It depicts British Military Muskets, Rifles, Coaching Blunderbusses and other arms, and gives data regarding certain individual makers and users of these arms, with period and ornamental sketches.

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Introduction of Firearms into Tudor England (1347-1597)
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The Commonwealth, Restoration and Revolution
Smooth Bores of the Early Eighteenth Century
The Sporting Gun of the Late Eighteenth Century
The Flintlock Rifle (1700-1780)
The Flintlock Rifle (1780-1820)
The Sporting Smooth Bore (1780-1820)
The End of the Flintlock
The Detonating System
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Service Small Arms and the Coming of the Breech Loader (1815-1865)

A list of British gunmakers of the Flintlock period, in the appendix, is valuable as a guide in dating British arms of standard flintlock type and by known makers.

The Author

John Nigel George volunteered in March, 1939, participated in the Belgium Flanders campaign, was on the beach at Dunkirk, escaping with a slight wound, and after service in Egypt and North Africa was killed at El Alamein September 3, 1942, by a sniper's bullet.

An outstanding authority, student and collector of English arms, George was the best qualified Britisher to write the history of his country's weapons. This he accomplished in the two works *English Pistols and Revolvers* and *English Guns and Rifles*. Both are written in a smooth, interesting literary "style" and intense and thorough treatment produces a sparkling saga of the development and use of British arms.

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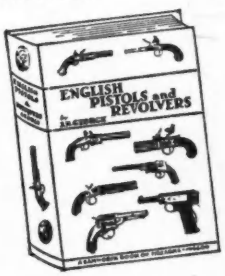

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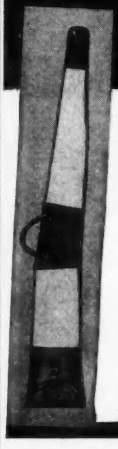

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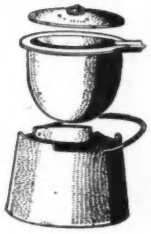

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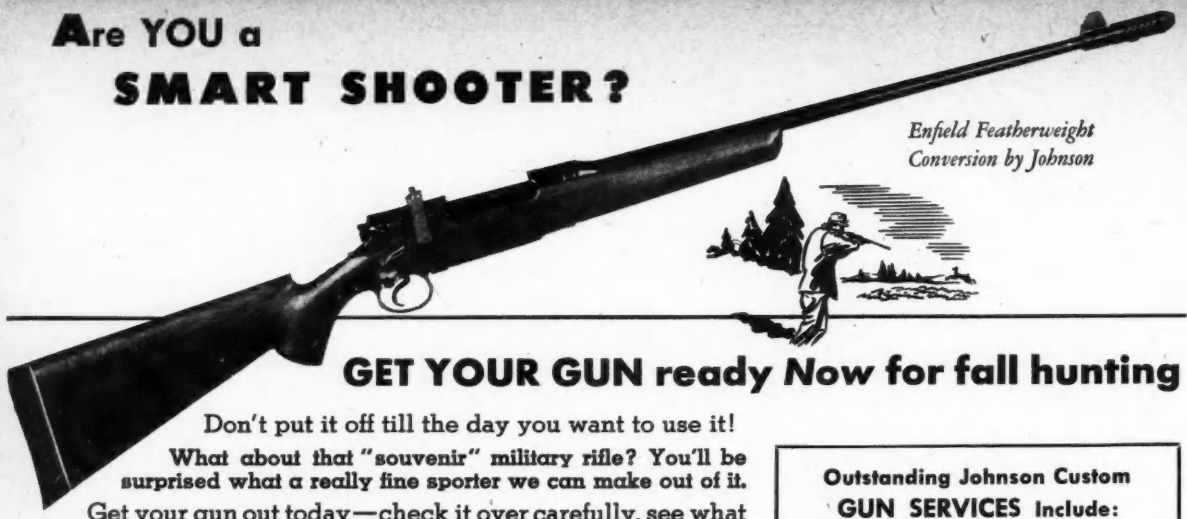

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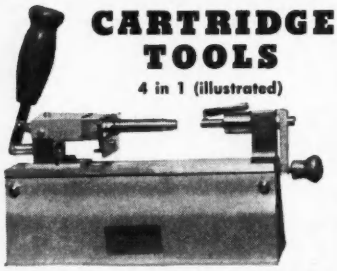

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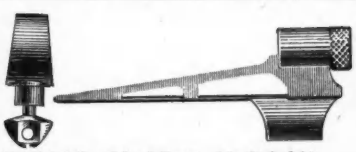

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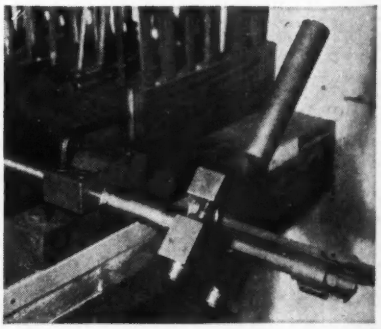

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SEE PAGE 47 "DOPE BAG" MAY ISSUE

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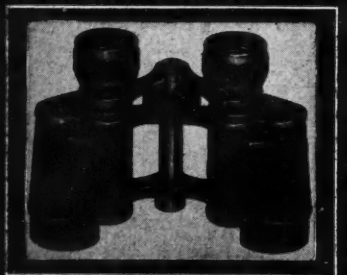

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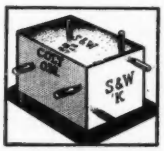

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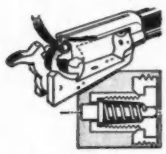

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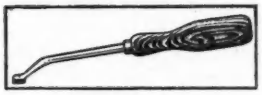

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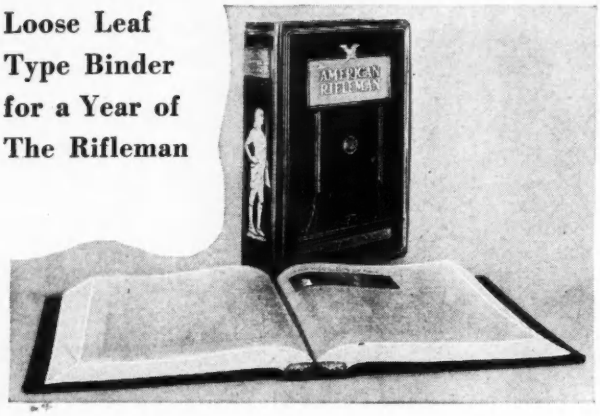

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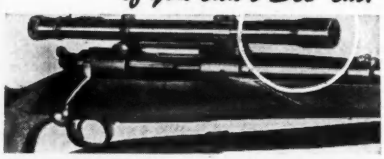

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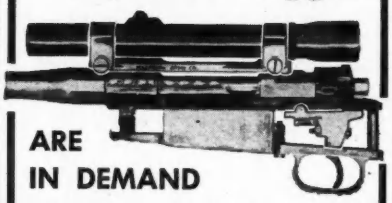

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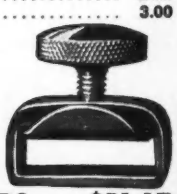

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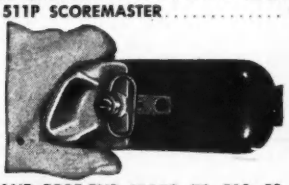

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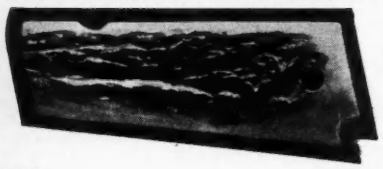

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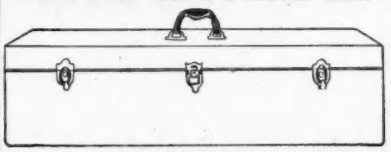

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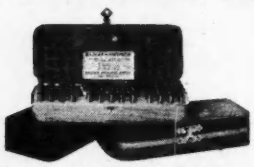

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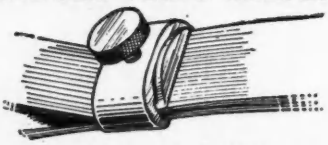

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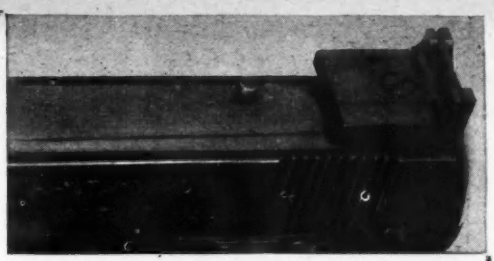

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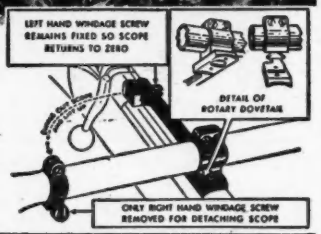
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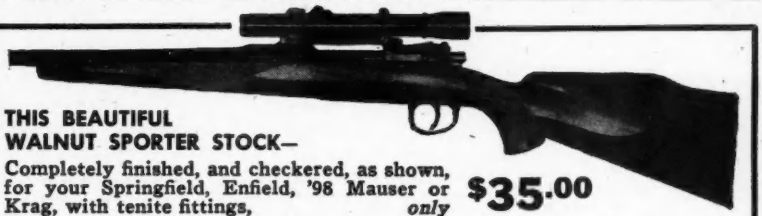

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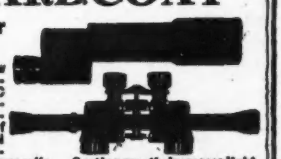

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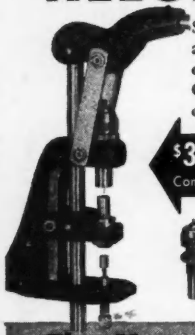

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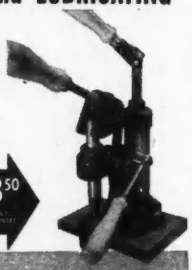

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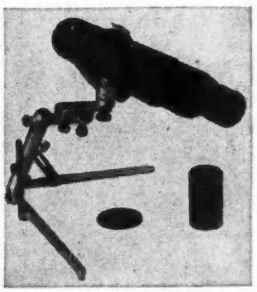

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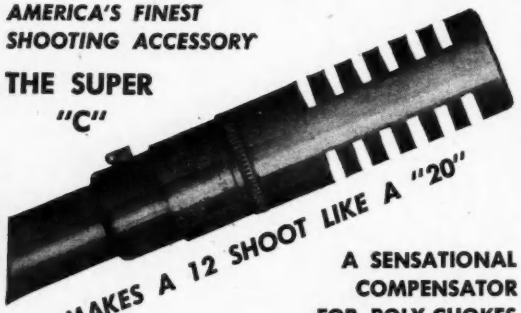

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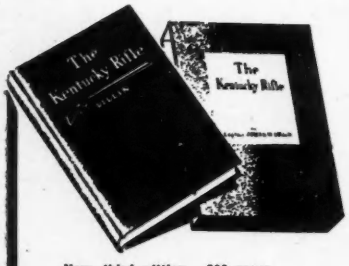

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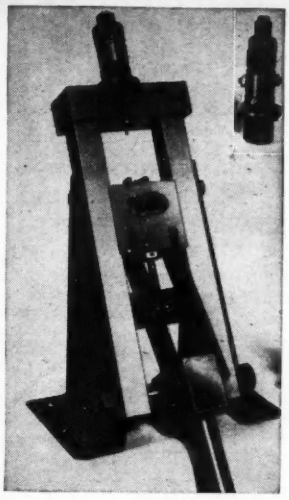

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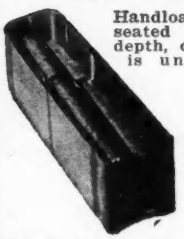

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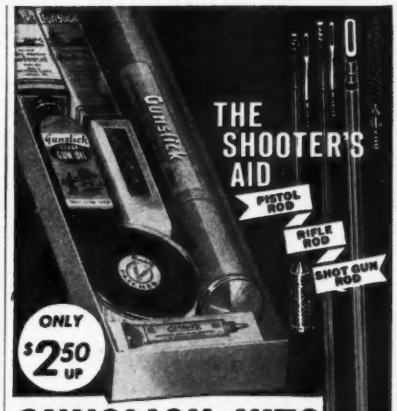

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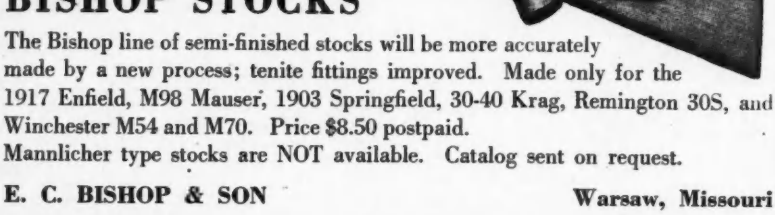

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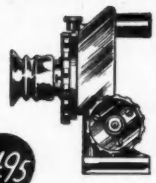

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BOOK REVIEWS

OUTDOORS UNLIMITED, Edited by J. Hammond Brown.

Most sportsmen are unable to do all the hunting and fishing they dream of as with each seasonal change the outdoors extends its new batch of invitations. For those who have trouble making a two-week vacation serve for a year's outdoor activity, I suggest the reading of this collection of top-notch stories.

These yarns, almost fifty of them, are written by old hands who long ago learned the art of placing their readers crotch-deep in an icy trout stream or in the midst of rocketing partridge thunder. As your guide on these fifteen-minute trips you might chose Clarke Venable, Nash Buckingham, W. J. Schaldach, or your old RIFLEMAN friend, Jim Berryman.

The average reader will probably recognize two or three of the stories as having appeared in past issues of sporting magazines. But in every case he will agree, I think, that their inclusion in this collection is justified—J. S. R.

(Published by A. S. Barnes & Co. Inc., New York City. 343 pages. Price $3.50. Available through the NRA Book Service.)

SPORTING GUNS: How to Choose; How to Use, by Jack O'Connor.

This paper-bound book by Jack O'Connor, Gun and Ammunition Editor of *Outdoor Life*, is aimed at the chap who needs advice on the fundamentals of guns and gunning. The information it gives is the kind the novice gun buyer tries to get, too often unsuccessfully, from the man behind the counter in the sporting goods store: What are the different kinds of guns, and what are they good for? What are the best to buy for plinking, which to get for varmint shooting, what are the best deer rifles, and why?

The ninety-four pages of this magazine-size book are packed with sound material on rifles, shotguns, pistols, and revolvers. If every prospective gun buyer would read this book before making the purchase of a gun, he would be saved a lot of disappointment later.—J. S. H.

(Published by Franklin Watts, Inc., New York. 94 pages, 8 x 11 inches, paper-bound. Available through the NRA Book Service. Price $1.25.)

THE GUN DIGEST, Third Annual Edition.

Here is a surprisingly useful reference on American and foreign rifles, shotguns, handguns, and accessories. For example, there are two full pages containing 23 clear line cuts of various foreign pistols and revolvers. These pictures are ideal for identification purposes.

Among the other varied features of this book is a very interesting article on foreign sporting arms by Charles T. Haven; a profusely illustrated article on how to shoot a target rifle by C. M. Palmer; one on muzzle loaders by Major Ned H. Roberts; "Fun With A Handgun" by Walter Roper; "Trap and Skeet Shooting" by Fred Etchen; and "Reloading Ammunition" by Lieutenant Colonel Naramore. Ammunition is ably discussed by Maurice H. Decker and many ballistic tables and other data are given.

A unique feature that to many readers is alone worth more than the price of the book is a chapter by Charles Edward Chapel on "Discontinued Metallic Cartridge Arms." This shows, for each of the well-known makers, which of their arms are no longer produced and when each model was discontinued.

Altogether this is a fine work, excellent value for the money, and of interest to everyone who likes guns, from beginner to expert.—J. S. H.

(Published by Paul, Richmond & Company, Chicago, Illinois. 162 pages, paper-bound. Available through the NRA Book Service. Price $1.25.)

CORRECTION: In the May RIFLEMAN, the statement was made that Fuller's *Springfield Shoulder Arms* is out of print. This is an error. It is still obtainable from Francis Bannerman's Sons, 501 Broadway, New York City. The price is $4.50.—Ed.

BROADBILLS *by Lynn Bogue Hunt—from the Du Pont Museum, Wilmington, Delaware*

More Flights Canceled... Unless You Help

There's less game in many areas than ever before, and more shooters hoping to bag it. To assure yourself and others good hunting through the coming years, be a true sportsman: limit your bag, and join and support local and national organizations for game restoration and conservation.

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